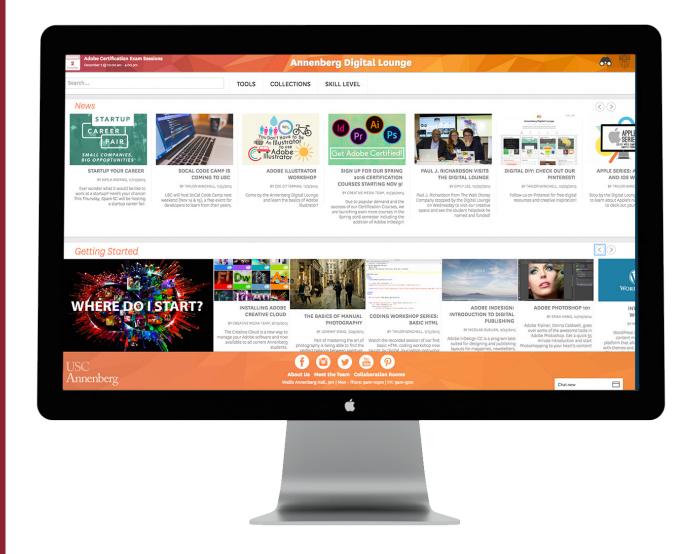


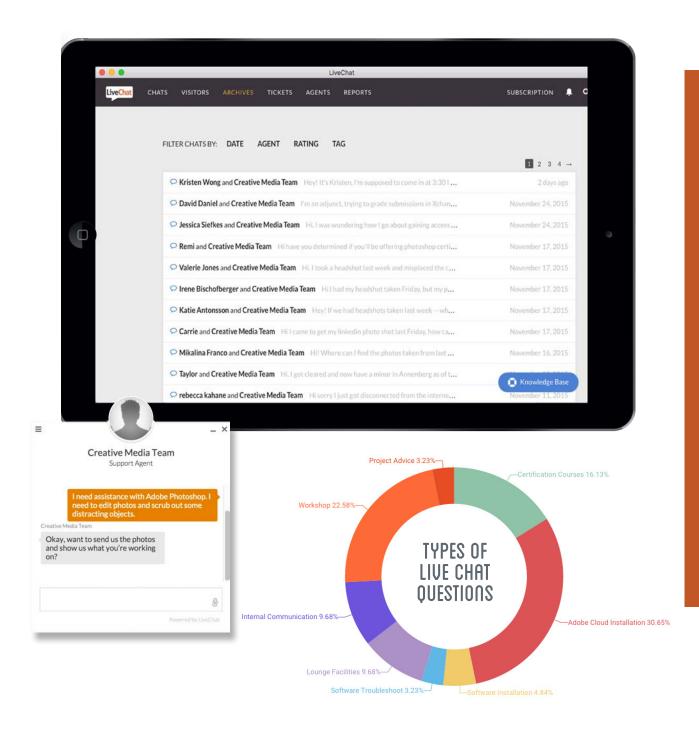
FALL 2015 REPORT BY: ERIKA HANG & COURTNEY MILLER



WEBSITE 2.0

Since the launch of Version 2.0 of our website in July 2015, we've worked hard to keep our news section current, post new tutorials every week, and be readily available to answer questions via our LiveChat! Our savvy Public Relations team has taken over the News section - posting multiple times a week on relevant topics such as upcoming workshops in the Digital Lounge and events happening around USC. Our traffic has increased. clocking in with 56,000 views and counting. Thanks to our hard working WordPress guru, Nick Halsey, we have continued to update and improve the site, including the recent addition of a way to filter tutorials by tool, collection, or skill level. With our increased digital presence and focus on social media, we've made our footer sticky to allow for easy access to our channels. We have also added a page regarding our new collaboration rooms, and expanded the staff page.

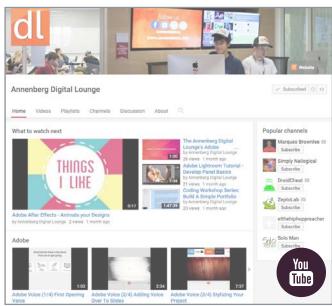


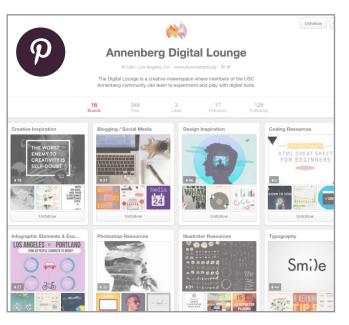




To create a better customer service experience and connection between the site and our physical space, we added a way to chat with our Media Support Specialists from anywhere and anytime during business hours. LiveChat allows student users to receive virtual support from a pop-up window on our site, and on our end, it creates a ticketing system for us to keep track of questions and user data. Students can upload any relevant screenshots or images to illustrate their question. Since our launch in September, we've had **over 100 chats**. Thanks to this new feature, we are now able to connect with students who watch our online screencasts at home, and we have even been working with our students who are studying abroad!



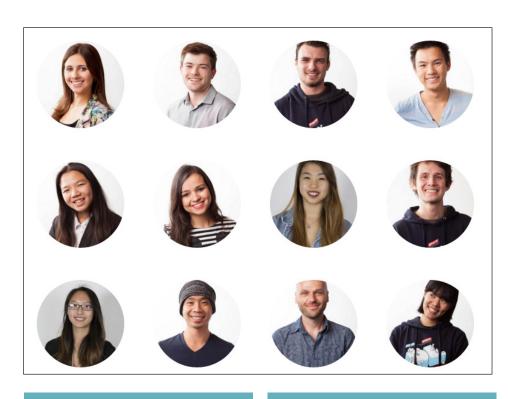






OUR SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM

With the launch of our new Public Relations team, we focused on increasing our digital presence and reach over this past semester. The team, consisting of 5 students, created more website content based on our target demographic, and turned into a promotional powerhouse. We are now leveraging the power of social media by promoting all of our events on Facebook, and we've created new media outlets such as a Pinterest page full of resources, and a fun SnapChat geofilter with our sweatshirt logo! Overall, we've increased our followers and reach astronomically. Our Facebook saw an increase of 283% in followers and 1200% increase in post reach. On Twitter, we increased our followers by 68% and our impressions per month by 367%.







THE PAUL J. RICHARDSON STUDENT HELPDESK

Our Students

Our team continues to grow with over 20 impressive students who bring design, PR, web, video, and audio expertise to our helpdesk! When they're not working for us, they're directing feature films, commercials, music videos, and starting their own companies in their free time

Content Creators

Not only do our Media
Specialists help students,
faculty and staff, they also
churn out an inredible amount
of content. This smester, they
designed staff sweatshirts,
stickers, and promotional videos
and fliers for the Annenberg
Digital Lounge that have
been prominently displayed
throughout ANN.

Our Donor's Visit!

Paul J. Richardson from The Walt Disney Company and ESPN stopped by in November to take a look at our creative space and see the student helpdesk that he named and funded! We were delighted to have our namesake visit the helpdesk, and to let him see, first-hand, the world of creativity we have launched in his name here.

OUR STUDENT PRODUCED WORK

Our talented team has produced an impressive bevy of work this semester. Art Majors, Matthew Torres and Kai Jiang, have drawn promotional stickers for students to add to their laptops, and designed staff sweatshirts. Our videographer and Cinema MFA student, Johnny Vong, produced a video package to highlight the Adobe Certification Courses for incoming students.



ADOBE CERTIFICATION PROMO VIDEO







ADOBE CERTIFICATION COURSES

Due to the success of our pilot, which offered 2 Photoshop courses and landed a 78% pass rate on the exam, we expanded our certification program to include Illustrator and Premiere Pro in addition to Photoshop. With waiting lists for almost every section, we had 135 students enrolled in our program. And, we were delighted to have an incredible amount of diversity within that population, with nearly every single major at Annenberg represented.

THE INSTRUCTORS

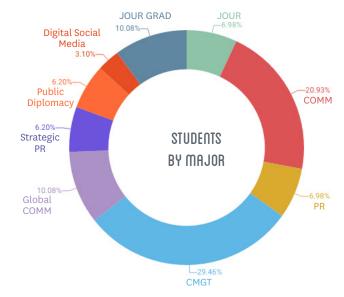


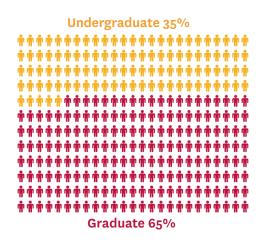
Chana MesserPhotoshop + Illustrator



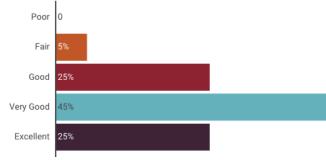
Rick MillerPhotoshop + Premiere Pro

DEMOGRAPHICS





OUR FEEDBACK



"I had an excellent experience. I thought I already knew a lot about Premiere, but the course showed me some best practices, some foundations I was missing, and some great new tricks!"

- JOUR Undergrad Student

"This is my second Course with Chana - she's the best; very professional and available to her students for questions all throughout the Adobe suite. I would highly recommend her to a friend seeking to take the course for the certification and practical knowledge." - COMM Undergrad Student

PASS RATE



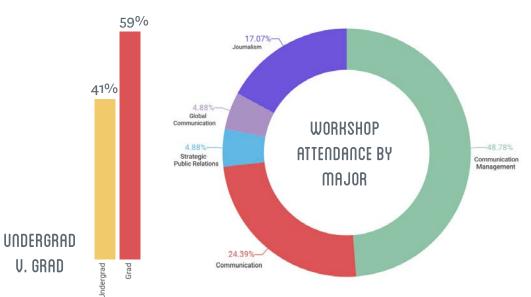


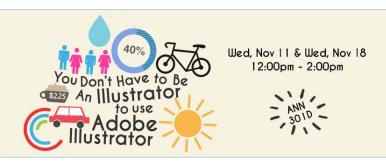
75%



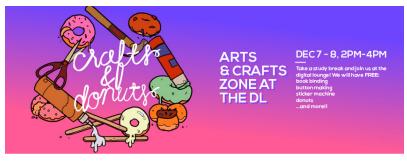
WORKSHOPS + EVENTS

This year, we focused on creating more partnerships to help us fill out our calendar of workshops and events. We teamed up with AIGA and Adobe Student rep, Chris Han, to host one of our most successful workshops to date! The Motion Graphics workshop brought in over 70 students, eager to start learning Adobe After Effects. Now that our workshops are consistently outgrowing our 32-seat instructional media lab, we have started **live streaming** our events on Twitch TV! We enlisted the new Apple Rep, Dakota Torres, to continue our Apple Series workshops that covered El Capitan, Keynote, Pages and the new OS. We also hosted new workshops on Adobe Illustrator, Photography, and Coding. To end the semester, we continued our mission to help students detox with crafts and donuts over the study days.













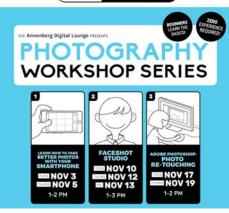
LUNCHBOX SESSIONS

We launched a new workshop series called the "Lunchbox Sessions" that encourages students to come and learn a new skill or tool during their lunch break! In October, we brought in Digital Journalism Instructor Jenn de la Fuente to lead a 3-part Coding Series that covered Basic HTML, Basic CSS, and brought it all together to build a simple portfolio website. It was one of our most popular series to date with a packed house each session. In November, with the help of Rick Miller, one of our Adobe Instructors, we put on a 3-part Photography Workshop Series. We covered iPhoneography, brought back our popular headshot studio, and showed students how to touch up those professional shots for LinkedIn! With the help of our PR team, we were able to garner interest and excitement. We'll definitely be continuing this series again next semester!









ANN301 FOR MORE DETAILED INFO













WOMEN'S HACKATHON TEAM HOSTED IN THE DL

In October, we nosted a team of 6 innovative women from other universities who competed in the Women's Hackathon. Aimed at promoting more women in technology and bridging the #gendergap, Mediashift launched this weekend of girl-hacking madness to see who could come up with and pitch the most innovative and viable idea within the realm of immersive journalism. Each

students, a mentor, and a plastic farm animal to mark their moniker

Over the course of 36 hours, teams developed a brand, marketing strategy, investment projections, and built an entire website in addition to launching a social media presence. A team of 7 judges that included Laura Davis from BuzzFeed and

Violet Mae Lim from the Media Operations team at Facebook critiqued the work and chose a winner! The DL-hosted team that Courtney mentored, Team Giraffe, took second place with their idea for a research-driven agency that helps predict and create VR experiences. Their idea was deemed feasible, utilized immersive journalism and told a compelling story!



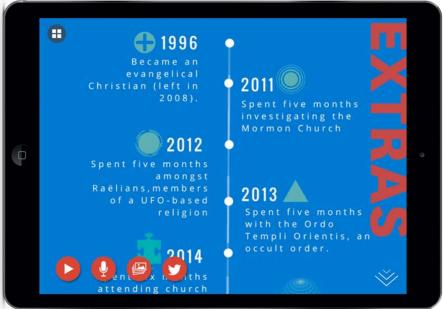
ADOBE DPS BOOTCAMP + USC STORYSPACE MOBILE APP

Over the summer, USC Annenberg hosted Adobe's DPS Bootcamp, a multi-day workshop to bring a publication to life for mobile publishing. Ten different teams, ranging from universities to Oakley and the Church of Scientology, brought their ideas and assets to create a proof of concept and prototype. The Annenberg Digital Lounge team, led by Erika Hang, set out to create a mobile application that showcased student work coming out of USC Annenberg. Our mentor, Karin De Oliveira, the Art Director for Mirium Agency, guided us on how to best integrate interactivity and produce a useful app. In addition to our team, the USC Annenberg Media Center, USC Admissions, and a USC Viterbi team participated in the event.

We plan to publish the app to the Apple Store in early Spring 2016!









EDUMAX + ADOBE MAX

In partnership with Adobe, we launched and hosted the first annual EduMax conference, bringing together over 30 CIOs and thought-leaders throughout higher education to share and discuss how campuses are supporting educational technology. Courtney Miller, along with James Vasquez and Charles Peyton, presented on Annenberg's 21st Century Digital Literacies Initiative and the story of the Digital Lounge. Based on the success of that presentation, Courtney was tapped by Adobe to co-chair the new Campus Collaboration board.

The fun continued with the Adobe Max Creativity Conference, where we learned new tips and tricks, what new apps are on the way, and how to infuse more creativity into our lives and the Digital Lounge. We were delighted to have two of our Media Specialists join us this year, art major Matthew Torres, and Gabriela Gomes, who is working on her MFA in Interactive Media.









We are always looking for new ways to leverage existing resources, and to champion the idea of collaboration. Our partnership with Adobe remains strong, as we continue to see an increase in download numbers and a huge demand for more certification. We have further been working with the newly-established team of Adobe student representatives, who are working with us to plan more events and workshops for next semester. Our connection remained strong on the Apple front as well as we continued to offer drop-in sessions at the helpdesk and workshops with their campus representative. Kicking off our second year of existence, we were thrilled to be chosen as a client for the student-run PR firm, Tri-Sight. They worked with us on the establishment of our student PR team, and will be helping us with faculty outreach next semester. Moving into Spring 2016, we are working hard to offer a full-calendar of events under our "Guest Geek" series. Be on the lookout for guest speakers from Buzz Feed, NPR, E! Style Networks and Disney.







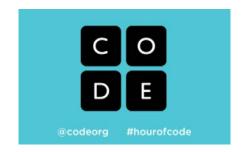
















MORE ADOBE CERTIFICATION COURSES

With continued demand for these courses, we are adding a section on Adobe InDesign and increasing our total course count to 6, which brings our total number of students in the program to 192. Always listening to feedback, we heard our students' requests to offer earlier sign-ups. So, thanks to Erika Hang, we already opened registration for Spring 2016 back in November, so students have been able to plan these courses around their class schedule.

NEW TEAM MEMBER

Justin Edwards will be joining us in January 2016 as the new Creative Media Specialist. He studied film production at the University of Texas at Austin and received a B.A. in Performance, Production, & Culture from Bowling Green State University, an M.Ed. from BGSU in Career & Technology Education, and an M.F.A. in Film Producing from the American Film Institute. Needless to say, he's creative and he likes school, which makes him a perfect fit.

ASCJ 200

We are once again teaching the lab section of ASCJ 200: Navigating Media and News in the Digital Age. This interdisciplinary course, taught by Professors Judy Muller and Alison Trope, is literally designed to engage students in 21st century literacies, which is directly tied to our mission. For this Spring 2016, the attendance is capped at 50, but will soon scale dramatically as it becomes a core requirement for all Journalism undergrads next year, putting the Digital Lounge front and center!

SPACE IMPROVEMENT

Now that we've had a year to observe how students are using our makerspace, we are planning to do some continual upgrades throughout next year. In addition to improving our AV system, we are also trying to make the space feel more "lounge-y." Look out for more bean bags, vinyl on the walls, and nooks that feel a little more cozy. Thankfully, we have an architect on our team, Nicolas Oueijan, who is a master at re-imagining space.