

## NEW SPACE FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS



Baldy Hall serves as home to the UB Communication Department and various other departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. It is without a doubt one of the most congested buildings on the North Campus. A recent project funded through UB's Capital Planning group helped to alleviate some spatial concerns within the department this past year by creating a new office space for Teaching Assistants/Graduate Assistants. The newly renovated space employs a design known as "hotel-ing," which maintains a large, bright, and open space with new furniture and multi-functional work stations for both private meetings and individual study.

### Central Authors in the Communication Field

**Thomas Feeley, PhD ranks as #1 Central Author**



Professor **Thomas Feeley** was recently ranked as the #1 central author in the field, according to a study by Darrin Griffin of the University of Alabama on central authors in the field of communication. The study utilized social network analysis to determine centrality scores for authors in the field based on

citation data from 24 of the central most communication research journals. From this, the study's data set included over 3,000 authors and their publications during the time span of 2007–2011. The study in its entirety was published in *Scientometrics* in October 2015.

### Alumni Spotlight

**Felix Swierski, B.A. '12**

*Special Assistant to the President, Georgetown University*



**Felix Swierski and Vice President Joseph Biden**

A recent study led by **Felix Swierski** (B.A. '12), department alumnus and the son of Adjunct Instructor Karen Swierski, has risen in the ranks since conferring his undergraduate degree at UB. Swierski, secretary of Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society while at UB, went on to be the media

coordinator for the New York State Assembly, and has since obtained a position as Special Assistant to the President at Georgetown University. In addition to the opportunity to work with numerous noteworthy people, Swierski has traveled extensively, including trips to Qatar, Rome, New Orleans, and Baton Rouge.