

**For immediate release**

## **Quinnipiac University School of Communications Establishes Advisory Board**

**Hamden, Connecticut – Jan. 23, 2018** – The Quinnipiac University School of Communications has established an advisory board composed of highly respected leaders from the communications field to share crucial industry insights, ensure that the school’s curriculums remain relevant and provide bridges for students to some of the most well-known media companies.

“We are delighted and very grateful that this group of highly accomplished media leaders has agreed to help guide our school into the future,” said Mark G. Contreras, dean of the School of Communications. “Each of the advisory board members is a nationally-recognized figure in the media world and we’re confident that our students, our faculty and our staff will benefit greatly from their experience and they will help us create one of the country’s most forward-looking schools of communications.”

Board members are chief executives and other senior leaders of major media companies engaged in the worlds of local and national media in broadcasting, digital and print media, film, pure-play digital media, design, advertising and public relations.

The members are: Emily Barr, president and CEO of Graham Media Group; Ann Blinkhorn, founder and media executive recruiter of Blinkhorn LLC; John Burbank, president of corporate development and strategic initiatives for Nielsen; Andy Cunningham, founder and president of Cunningham Collective; Bill Davis, president and CEO of Southern California Public Radio; Sameer Deen, senior vice president of digital Univision; Adam Deutsch, vice president of global digital product operations for ESPN; Mike Fernandez, U.S. CEO of Burson-Marsteller; Ian Ferreira, executive vice president of WideOrbit; Joe Fiveash, senior vice president, digital media and strategy for Raycom Media; Seth Geiger, president and co-founder of SmithGeiger; Josh Golden, president and publisher of Ad Age; Lynn Hanessian, chief strategist for Edelman; Trevor Kaufman, CEO of Piano; John Lansing, director and CEO of Broadcasting Board of Governors; Brent Magid, president and CEO of Frank N. Magid Associates; Maury McIntyre, president and COO of Television Academy; Melissa Menta, senior vice president, marketing and communications for Peanuts Worldwide, LLC; Dave Morgan, CEO and founder of Simulmedia; Dina Pradel, vice president of marketing for MediaSilo; Brett Pulley, executive vice president and managing director, corporate content and media strategy for Weber Shandwick; Monica Ray, executive vice president, consumer marketing for Conde Nast; Altaf Rupani, senior vice president and head of digital and emerging technologies for NBCUniversal Media, LLC; Felix Sanchez, chairman and co-founder of National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts; Anna Sedgley, COO and CFO of Dow Jones; Charles Smith, venture partner for Social Starts; Rick Stamberger, president and CEO of SmartBrief; Steven Waldman, cofounder and president of Report for America; Steven Walsh, executive vice president, commercial for comScore, Inc; Erin Waters, president of RealClear Media Group; and Salah Zalatimo, head of product and tech for Forbes.

Beginning in February, the advisory board will convene twice a year (one meeting per semester) via video conference to share how the board members' companies are currently dedicating resources to address future audience, revenue and technology challenges.

This process will help the school ensure that the curriculum remains extremely relevant to the industries involved in media and communications.

In addition, the faculty and staff can use these interactions to inform the advisory board about new course offerings, resources and capabilities the school is providing for Quinnipiac students.

Current students from a variety of disciplines will be encouraged to display their work to the board, which offers the students further exposure to world-class leaders in the media field. This also provides an opportunity for senior-level leaders to learn about the skill sets, talents and interests of the quality students currently enrolled at the school.

#### **About Quinnipiac University**

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, nonsectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 7,000 full-time undergraduate and 3,000 graduate and part-time students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac consistently ranks among the top regional universities in the North in U.S. News and World Report's America's "Best Colleges" issue. Quinnipiac also is recognized in Princeton Review's "The Best 381 Colleges." The Chronicle of Higher Education has named Quinnipiac among the "Great Colleges to Work For." For more information, please visit [QU.edu](http://QU.edu). Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook at [Facebook.com/quinnipiacunews](https://www.facebook.com/quinnipiacunews) and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.

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#### **Media Contact:**

John W. Morgan, associate vice president for public relations, Quinnipiac University  
(203) 582-5359 (office)  
(203) 206-4449 (cell)

