



Professor William M. Alnor, Department of Communication



William M. Alnor, assistant professor of communication at CSU East Bay, passed away March 20.

Assistant Professor Alnor said he loved teaching mass communication courses and enjoyed helping students launch productive careers. His areas of academic specialization included investigative reporting, media ethics, media history, media and society, media law, editorial and opinion writing, public relations, religion and the news, plagiarism, student publications.

Prior to joining the faculty at CSUEB in 2005, he had a lengthy career as a newspaper reporter and author in the Philadelphia area before launching his teaching career at several Philadelphia universities and at Texas A&M University. He earned a bachelor and master's degree in journalism, and a Ph.D. in mass media and communications, all from Temple University.

Just last summer his new research on plagiarism was accepted for presentation at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in Denver, and earlier that year he served as a media expert for a Columbia University article on the UFO phenomena. The son of a United Methodist minister, Assistant Professor Alnor had studied religion, and had authored four books and numerous articles for religious publications.

Gale Young, professor emeritus and chair of communication, said Assistant Professor Alnor was a tremendous asset.

"He was a premier university citizen. He truly loved his students and teaching journalism. He relished in writing and researching. He gladly gave of this time and energy to help students on their way and he was always the first volunteer to lead or assist a departmental project. Communication students, faculty and staff will miss him dearly and will always be inspired by his kindness and collegiality," said Young.

He was a member of the American Journalism Historians Association, The Evangelical Press Association, the Public Relations Society of America, and Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. On campus, he advised the Public Relations Student Society of America Chapter, the Republican Club, and Campus Crusade for Christ. He had chaired the Communication Department's Curriculum Committee and had been on the Academic Senate.

He is survived by his wife, Jackie, assistant coordinator of the CSUEB Academic Senate Office, and three children and one grandchild.

Services will be at Spencer Mortuary, 21228 Redwood Rd Castro Valley, 94546. The viewing will be from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, the funeral will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 24. It will move to Lone Tree Cemetery, 24591 Fairview Ave., Hayward, 94542.

The CSUEB Department of Communication will hold a celebration of life in memory of Assistant Professor Alnor at a later time.