Welcome back to all MFA in Documentary Media students returning from summer quarter, and a very warm welcome to our new graduate students this fall! All of us in the Office of External Programs, Internships and Career Services (aka EPICS) are excited to have you on campus.

The EPICS team is dedicated to providing you with professional development services and programming throughout the year in order to prepare you for a successful career after graduation. While I’ll be your main point of contact, please note that other EPICS staff members are here to support you:

**Heather Trulock**  
Director, EPICS  
heather.trulock@northwestern.edu

**Mandi Glowen**  
Coordinator, EPICS  
Mandi.glowen@northwestern.edu

Like you, EPICS had a very busy summer! We launched a brand-new version of SoConnect, our online career management system, which will be faster and easier to use for both students and employers. We also onboarded new companies, which results in new internship opportunities for you! Lastly, EPICS has planned several amazing programs and events throughout the year that are specific to those seeking a career in documentary media.

Again, welcome back! We’re looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

**Todd Lillethun**  
Assistant Director of EPICS  
Email: todd.lillethun@northwestern.edu  
Office: 847-491-5010
MFA, Documentary Media Internship Requirement

In order to fulfill the internship requirement for the MFA, Documentary Media program, students must secure an internship during summer quarter (between year one and two of the program) or during fall quarter (of year two), register their internship with EPICS, and enroll in the internship course. Please view our website for more information about his requirement.

CAREER COACHING

Students enrolled in the MFA, Documentary Media program have access to 1:1 career coaching with EPICS. Coaching appointments topics include resume/cover letter reviews, internship/job search strategy, offer-negotiation coaching and more. It is advised that you plan on having a minimum of 1 career coaching appointment per quarter. All appointments are with EPICS Assistant Director, Todd Lillethun.

Students can request an appointment with EPICS via SoConnect. Once logged-in, click on Make Appointment under the “I want to” menu. If no appointments are available, please email epics@northwestern.edu and we will get back to you with further options.

Northwestern Career Advancement (NCA) is also available to advise you on all things career-related. Some of their services include express advising, individual counseling appointments, career assessments and more! Mearah Quinn-Brauner (mearah@northwestern.edu) serves as the liaison to programs of study within The Graduate School, including the MFA Writing for Stage and Screen program. Make sure to connect with her when working with NCA.

SoConnect

SoConnect is the School of Communication’s Career Management System. This database allows you to:

- Search for and apply to SoC-specific internships, full-time jobs, and freelance opportunities
- Register your internship experience for credit
- Request and view career coaching appointments with EPICS staff
- Learn about film festival submission and casting opportunities
- Upload multiple resumes, cover letters, and other documents
- Set automatic notifications to announce when new postings hit the database
- Save settings for job searches to be used again at the click of a button
- View career resources in the document library
- RSVP to events and workshops
**PROGRAMS & EVENTS**

EPICS offers a variety of programs and events for all SoC students throughout the academic year, including

- **EPICS Connections** (speaker series that connects students to industry leaders)
- **Leadership Journeys** (experience a day in the life with a local professional or organization)
- **Career Workshop & Masterclasses**
- **Career + Internship Fair**
- **Company Information Sessions**

Some highlights for Fall Quarter include:

- **MSLCE Speaker Series** - Mara Webster, Tribeca, Sundance, and SXSW Film Festivals (October 1)
- EPICS Connections – meet producer Brad Krevoy (October 7)
- Leadership Journeys – visit Periscope Post & Audio (October 16)
- Career Workshops – Lunch N Learn: Resumes and Cover Letters (Oct. 23)
- Erica Labovitz, Indiegogo Film Category Business Director (Dec. 3)

**PROFESSIONAL VIEWS**

While this may be a ways away for some of you, I wanted you to be aware of this program provided to MFA, Documentary Media students. EPICS manages the Professional Views program for the MFA, Documentary Media program at Northwestern University.

The Professional Views program provides our MFAs with professional feedback. MFAs who submit a polished documentary or “actuality”-based work (feature length or under) will receive formally solicited “professional views” with feedback and guidance from established Northwestern alumni and/or industry professionals. Each MFA is eligible to submit one piece of work for a total of two views.

**EPICS NEWS**

Keep up to date on EPICS news and events through [SoConnect](https://soconnect.northwestern.edu), [EPICS Blog](https://communication.northwestern.edu/epics), social media and [weekly round-up](https://communication.northwestern.edu/epics) for jobs & internship.

For the latest information, follow EPICS on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/EPICSFilms/) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/EPICSFilms), where you can learn about new internships, job postings, and events for students in the School of Communication.

As new events become announced, I’ll be sure to let you know. You can also see a list of events on our EPICS calendar, located in [SoConnect](https://soconnect.northwestern.edu) and on our [website](https://communication.northwestern.edu/epics).