

Friday, July 7
INTERN EDITION MEETING

Ahead of schedule ... and how to make a GREAT story

Meeting started at 9:40 am in BR East

- Welcome back Doug
- If you are not on the IE email list, please let Rita know

Rita (Executive Producer)

- Everyone seems to be on track, or ahead of schedule
- Sound due Friday, July 7
 - o Any problems with the deadline, contact Arwa/Rita
- Rita will be putting a sheet up in the training room w/ "Helpful Dalet Solutions"

Doug (Project Manager)

- We are ahead of the game- all is going well
- How the individual pieces come together as a show:
 - o Kind of in a weird way
 - o Often times night/day before, order changes a lot
 - o Ask the question "Does the piece fit?" (In terms of content/time)
 - Total show needs to be 59 minutes (so it could run on air if wanted)
 - o Show will be put on PRX.org (along with other Next Gen/IE shows)
 - Available to stations if they want to run it/use pieces
 - All pieces (even those not in show) will be on PRX.org
 - o **ALL** pieces will go on web (even if not in August 3 show)
 - o ***Please don't feel your summer is ruined if your piece is not in the show***
 - You will be recognized on PRX.org and on the web
 - The choice was made because of "fit" and time
 - o Think approximately 4 minutes for your piece (not much more, could be less)

Arwa (Managing Editor)

- Editing process:
 - o Use NEW deadline sheet
 - o Listening to actualities
 - Should be in order in Dalet (in relation to your script)
 - Time it alone while listening to it—then time it with Arwa
 - Read along with script while listening to tracks
 - Think about how the piece/story flows
 - *Is the time Ok? Will it make sense for the listener?
 - *Think about it objectively—be smart about cutting content
 - *Tip: Have someone else listen to the audio who is not on your team—it might help to get the "listeners" opinion on flow, length, and content
 - o Start the piece with your voice; end the piece with your voice
 - Host intro: Should be most compelling part of piece
 - *It draws the audience in to listen
 - *Let the host have the best part to brand the piece to the audience

- Logging and dubbing
 - o Log what is helpful to you
- Pay attention to NEW deadline sheet
 - o Might need to do extra work on weekends OR deadline might be on weekend
 - o 5th floor training room is always open (at night and on weekends too)
 - o **If ahead of schedule, hand pieces into Arwa in advance!**
- Get scripts into Arwa ASAP (the sooner the better)
- Pieces/scripts should include Host Intro

Derick & Shaun (Audio Engineering)

- Help is available
 - o Contact in advance for help
 - o Derick's email is best way to contact him (it goes to his phone)
 - youngblazehu@gmail.com (Derick's email)

Danielle (Digital Media, filling in for Melissa)

- One week until website launch (Friday, July 14th)
- Audio bio recording scheduled for Monday, July 10
 - o Contact Derick/Shawn directly for questions regarding time scheduling
- Email social/internship pictures to Christina
 - o Need captions & name of the person who took the picture included
- Blog: Stick to schedule
- If you have ideas for web extras—contact Jeremy, Melissa, or Danielle

Meredith & Jessica (Communications)

- Working on Press Releases
- NPR Insider (Intranet piece)
 - o Featuring IE interns for two weeks (July 14-27)
 - o Promo for website and IE in general

Danny Zwerdling—What makes a story more than just 'Ok?'

- Think about stories, books, movies that you remember as being "Great"
 - o What made those pieces jump out?
 - Characteristics: Simple, funny, learned something, one basic point, use of sound, conversation form, suspense, humor, reality, a journey, conflict, uniqueness, surprise, strong character(s), relatable, understandable plot
 - o Often when people make stories, they get some of the characteristic right
 - It is like exercise, getting it right and taking the effort takes practice
 - Try to incorporate those characteristics to get better at using them
- Everyone can tell interesting stories
 - o TRY to make your radio piece like those FUN stories you tell to your friends/family
 - o Be natural, say it like you would normally (in everyday talking), be conversational
 - Being conversational DOES NOT make you sound unprofessional or "not smart"
 - Don't use words you wouldn't use in regular conversation when speaking in your piece
- When telling your story:
 - o Be specific

- Get your interviewees to be specific in their storytelling as well
 - Ask for details, a full account of what happened (how it felt, smelled, atmosphere, clothing, day, mood, etc.)
- For host intro and other voice clips:
 - Use short sentences
 - One thought per sentence (it makes it easier to hear and enjoy)
- Writing for radio
 - Write the way you talk—not the way you would write for print or magazines
 - Use simple sentences (not long, run-ons, or use of big, unnatural words)
 - Conception starts the moment you think of story idea
 - It shapes how you interview, who you interview, etc.
 - Visualize telling your story to your best friend
 - Who do you LOVE to talk to?
 - Use the way you would tell the story to that person and write it that way
- Rules for stories
 1. Must learn at least 3 things within the story
 - a. Think of things that you'd want to tell other people about after hearing the piece
 - b. NPR is an educator—educate people with your piece
 2. Ask self: Why do people need to know this? Why should they care? (answer those questions)
 3. Read script aloud—change things that you wouldn't say in a regular conversation

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am