HILL+KNOWLTON

Breaking Through the Noise: Communications Planning in an InfoSaturated Society

Emily Crane April 26, 2012 Clients







ExonMobil.



Non-Profit











Public Health











Campaigns









3 Objectives for Session

- Understand highest priority needs and challenges
- + Developing a comprehensive communications program
- + Disruptive Thinking
 - Focus on digital

Outlining Your Own Plan

+ Situation

- Consumer needs
- Barriers and drivers (e.g., awareness, "product," competition and perception)
- Environmental opportunities and collaborators

+ SWOT

- Strengths and weaknesses internally
- Opportunities and threats externally
- + Market segmentation
- Objectives and Strategies
- + Tactics



What are the challenges and opportunities you face?



Established Barriers for Nonprofits

Leadership Appreciates Work, Strategic Role Still Elusive

Help Needed to Move Beyond the Basics

 Nearly half (49%) of nonprofit professionals surveyed say their organization has no documented communications plan, but implements communications activities as the need arises. Smaller organizations (those with 25 employees or less) and newer ones (those founded in the past 25 years) are more likely than others to work without a documented plan.

Lack of Resources is the Main Barrier to Success

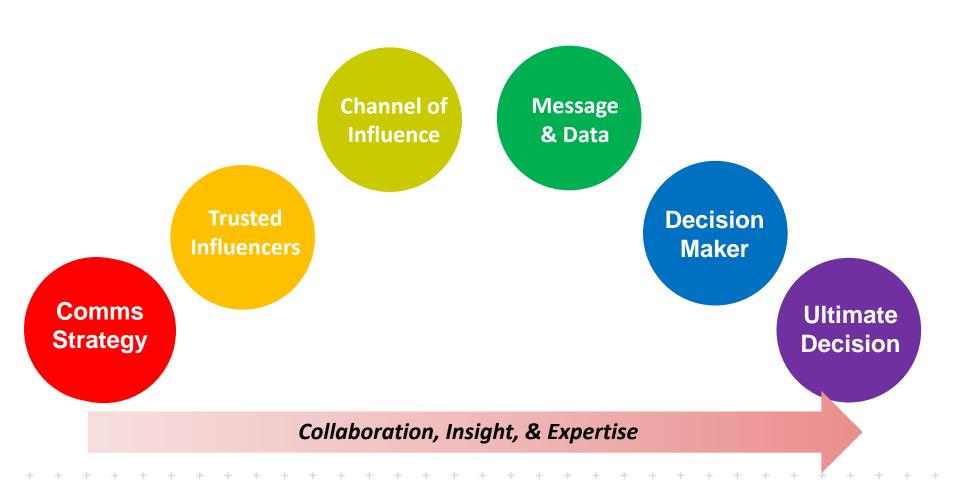
 About half (49%) of nonprofits currently allocate no more than 2 percent of their annual budget for communications, while less than a third (30%) spend 5 percent or more on communications.

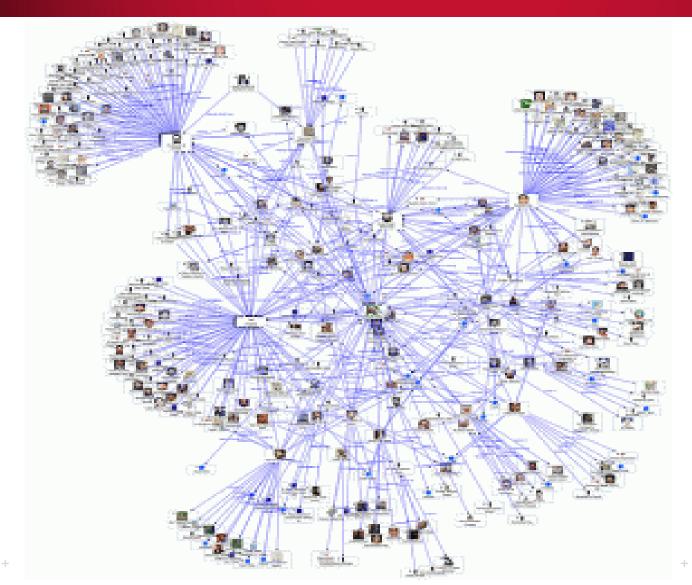
+ More effective communicators have:

- A documented communications plan in place, and some staff who work exclusively on communications.
- Collaboration with development and fundraising.
- Measurement and metrics in place to evaluate their communications efforts.



Why is a Communications Plan important?







Questions to consider when planning

- + What is the story you want to tell?
- + What do you see as the primary Barriers and Drivers to success?
- + What are your key messages? Do you feel that these are effectively being communicated?
- + How would you like your reputation to change?
- + What are your long-term business objectives?
- + How is your mission and vision being implemented within various aspects of the business?

- + What kinds of training would you / your team benefit from?
- + What are your short-term and long-term marketing objectives?
- Who are your target audiences?
- + What do you consider to be your best offering? Most unique?
- How will you be measuring the success of the communications program?
- Do you have collateral material?What's working? What's not?



A Cascading Framework Aligns Strategies and Objectives

Overall Goal Raise more money so we can help more people **Create opportunities Build identity & Position UCP as** for increased touch awareness resource points Barrier / Driver Low **Need for Perception** understanding/ Lack of resources credibility unclear value Be thought leaders Strategy Focus on the right Leverage the power Capitalize on peer-toaround accessibility people with targeted of the collaborative peer influence and independence materials network issues



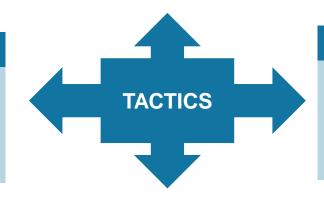
Tactical Buckets

TARGETED MATERIALS

- Presentations, case studies
- · Brochure / postcard
- Advertising
- Backgrounders & FAQs
- Direct mail

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- Media relations campaigns
- Conferences / symposia / dinner meetings
- Webinars
- Speaking engagements



PEER INFLUENCERS

- Advisory panel
- Community leaders
- Partnerships (Development)
- Customizable articles

NETWORK

- Materials from UCP National
- Collaboration with colleagues
- Training needs



Disruptive



Clarity



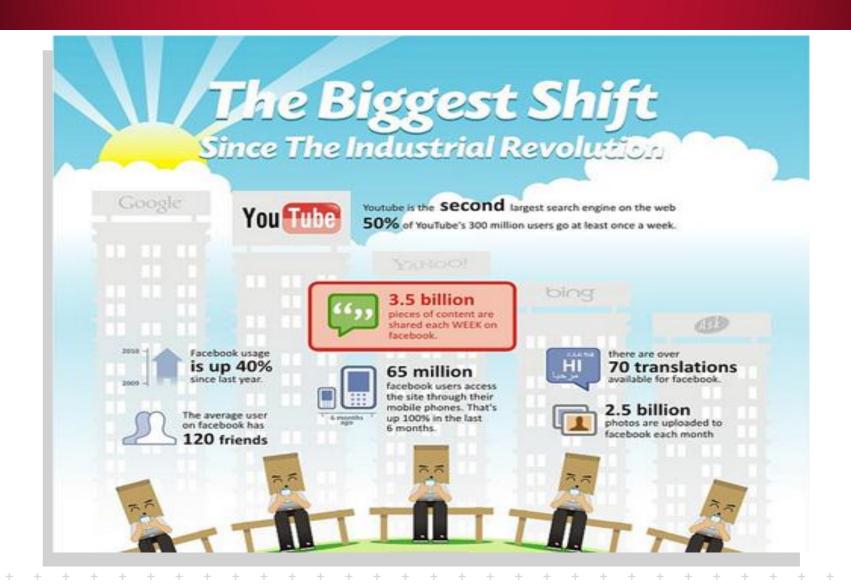
Don't say the old lady screamed. Bring her out and let her scream.

—Mark Twain

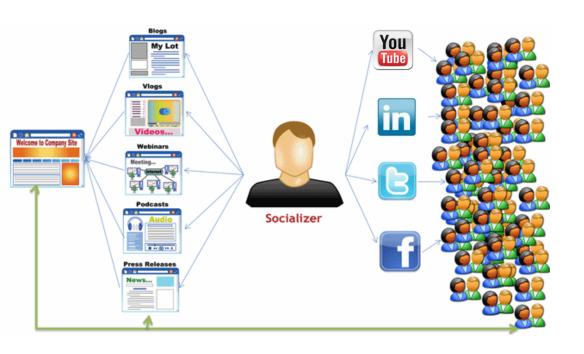


Consistency



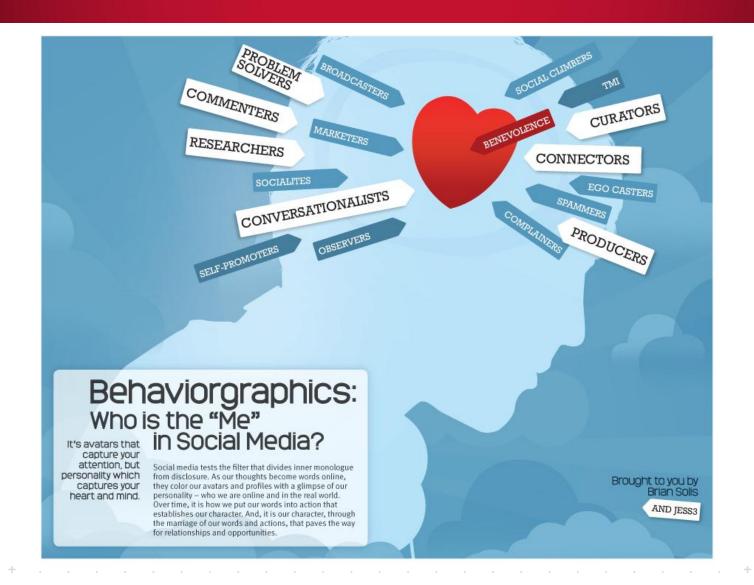


Why Digital?



- + Increase visibility
- Up your credibility
- + Insert viewpoint
- Cost effective
- Manage and monitor your brand
- + Build relationships
- Increase SEO
- + Be your own platform
- + You don't have a choice!





Meaningful Metrics

- Accountability for outcomes, not just outputs
- Strategic objectives must link to brand and business benchmarks
- + Set metrics and continually reassess
- Impact increases justification for additional resources in the future







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