

GRADUATE STUDIES IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS



What makes Communication Studies an extraordinary place for graduate studies?

High Quality Graduate Education

Faculty in Communication Studies are renowned for their commitment to teaching, research, and student advising. The department has won major awards in all three areas! Individual faculty members have won many awards within the university and the discipline. Below is a partial list of faculty awards.

AWARDS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

Byron Alexander Graduate Mentor Award—College of Liberal Arts and Sciences:

2007 Robert C. Rowland

2003 Mary Lee Hummert

Center for Teaching Excellence Award for Communication Studies

2002 Dorthy Pennington

2002 Adrienne Kunkel

2000 Robert C. Rowland

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Career Teaching Award

2014 Donn W. Parson

H. Bernard Fink Award for Outstanding Classroom Teaching:

1994 Robert C. Rowland

HOPE Award Finalist presented by the Senior Class

2000 Tracy A. Russo

1994 Robert C. Rowland

1990 Robert C. Rowland

J. Michael Young Advisor Award—College of Liberal Arts and Sciences:

2008 Robert C. Rowland

2002 Robert C. Rowland

JHAWK Faculty Appreciation Award, University of Kansas Medical Center

2013 David Cook

KU Women's Hall of Fame:

2005 Dorthy Pennington

2003 Mary Lee Hummert

Louise E. Byrd Graduate Educator Award:

2000 Robert C. Rowland

- Ned N. Fleming Trust Award
 2015 Jeff Hall
 2012 Dave Tell
- Outstanding Woman Faculty Member—The Commission on the Status of Women
 and the Emily Taylor Women’s Resource Center:
 2003 Adrienne Kunkel
- Silver Anniversary Award for Excellence in Teaching:
 2004 Adrienne Kunkel
- Steeple Award for Service to the People of Kansas:
 1999 Dorthy Pennington
- W. T. Kemper Fellowship Teaching Excellence:
 2008 Mary Banwart
 2007 Yan Bing Zhang
 2006 Beth Manolescu
 2003 Tracy Russo
 2000 Mary Lee Hummert
 1997 Donn Parson
 1996 Robert C. Rowland
- John C. Wright Mentor Award
 2011 Adrienne Kunkel

TEACHING AND SERVICE AWARDS WITHIN THE DISCIPLINE AND COMMUNITY

- Central States Communication Association Young Teacher Award:
 2004 Adrienne Kunkel
 1968 Donn W. Parson
- Donald H. Ecroyd Award for Outstanding Teaching in Higher Education—
 National Communication Association:
 2005 Robert C. Rowland
- George Ziegelmuller Award—National Debate Tournament:
 2006 Scott Harris
 2003 Donn W. Parson
- IARR (International Association for Relationship Research) Mentoring Award
 2014 Adrienne Kunkel
- Kansas Statewide Transgender Project Education Award
 2012 Adrienne Kunkel
- National Communication Association Teacher on Teaching Program
 2014 Tracy Russo
 2005 Tracy Russo
 1999 Robert C. Rowland
 1997 Dorthy Pennington
- National Communication Association Wallace Bacon Lifetime Teaching Award
 2014 Donn W. Parson
- National Communication Association Women’s Caucus, Francine Merritt Award
 2015 Adrienne Kunkel
- Kansas Bar Association—Outstanding Service Award:
 2003 Robert C. Rowland

National Debate Coach of the Decade:

1970s Donn W. Parson

National Debate Coach of the Year:

2006 Scott Harris

1986 Robert C. Rowland

1981 Donn W. Parson

1980 Donn W. Parson

1972 Donn W. Parson

The OSCLG (the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender) Feminist-Teacher Mentor Award

2014 Adrienne Kunkel

Central States Communication Association Hall of Fame

2015 Dorthy Pennington

2011 Donn W. Parson

2004 Wil Linkugel

Keynote, "The Dream: 48 Years Later..." Black history month event sponsored by the Black Employment Program, a division of the U.S. Department of Energy, Albuquerque, NM.

2011 Hannah Oliha-Donaldson

RESEARCH AWARDS

American Forensic Association Research Award, 1988, for "On Defining Argument," Robert C. Rowland, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, 20 (1987): 140-159.

B. Aubrey Fisher Article Award, 2004, *Western Journal of Communication*, for "The Rhetoric of Hindu Nationalism: A Narrative of Mythic Redefinition," Robert C. Rowland, second author with Abhik Roy.

B. Aubrey Fisher Article Award, 2017, *Western Journal of Communication*, for "Survivor: Women's Stories of Navigation and Tensions in a Domestic Violence Shelter," Adrienne Kunkel, with Jennifer Guthrie (second author).

Bill Eadie Distinguished Award for a Scholarly Article, Applied Communication Division, National Communication Association, 2014. Adrienne Kunkel.

Bill Eadie Distinguished Award for a Scholarly Article, 2016, Applied Communication Division, National Communication Association for "Changing deliberative norms on news organization Facebook sites," Ashley Muddiman with co-authors, Natalie J. Stroud, Joshua M. Scacco, and Alexander L. Curry.

Chancellor's 2017 University Scholarly Achievement Award, for the Emmett Till Memory Project, 2017, Dave Tell.

Community Engaged Scholarship Award, for the "Emmett Till Memory Project." College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas, 2017, Dave Tell.

Douglas W. Ehninger Rhetorical Scholar Award, National Communication Association, 2011, Robert C. Rowland.

Giles-Nussbaum Distinguished Scholar Award, Commission on Communication and Aging, National Communication Association, 1997, Mary Lee Hummert.

Golden Anniversary Monograph Award, National Communication Association, 2013, "The Meanings of Kansas: Rhetoric, Regions, and Counter Regions," *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, 42 (2012): 214-232, Dave Tell.

“Heritage Award for Education.” Mississippi Heritage Trust, for the Emmett Till Memory Project, 2016, Dave Tell.

Interpersonal Division, National Communication Association, Early Career Award, 2015, Jeff Hall.

Journal of Family Communication Outstanding Article Award, 2013, Alesia Wozidlo.

Karl R. Wallace Memorial Award, National Communication Association, 2012, Dave Tell.

Keynote Reagan Centennial Conference, “Principle, Pragmatism, and Authenticity in Reagan’s Rhetoric,” USC/Reagan Library, February 2011, Robert C. Rowland.

Keynote, National Communication Association Conference on Rhetorical Criticism, “Purpose, Evidence, and Pedagogy in Rhetorical Criticism,” University of Puget Sound, July 2010, Tacoma, Washington, Robert C. Rowland.

Kohrs-Campbell Prize in Rhetorical Criticism, National Communication Association, 2003, for *Shared Land/Conflicting Identity: Trajectories of Israeli and Palestinian Symbol Use*, Robert C. Rowland, author with David Frank.

Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, 2013, *Confessional Crises and Cultural Politics in Twentieth-Century America* (Pennsylvania State University Press), Dave Tell.

Midwest Forensic Association Best Essay in Argumentation, 1987, for “On Defining Argument,” Robert C. Rowland, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, 20 (1987): 140-159.

Midwest Forensic Association Best Forensic Essay, 1986, for “The Relationship Between Realism and Debatability in Policy Advocacy,” Robert C. Rowland *Journal of the American Forensic Association*, 22 (1986): 125-134.

Outstanding Contribution in Argumentation and Forensics, Argumentation and forensics Division, Central States Communication Association, 2017, Robert Rowland.

Political Communication Division, National Communication Association, Outstanding Article Award for “Recasting the American Dream and American Politics: Barack Obama’s Keynote Address to the 2004 Democratic National Convention,” November 2009, Robert C. Rowland with John Jones.

Senior Scholar Award, National Communication Association/American Forensic Association Summer Conference on Argumentation, Alta, Utah, July 2017, Robert Rowland.

Sharon and Jeffrey Vitter Award for Engaged Scholarship, for the Emmett Till Memory Project, 2016, Dave Tell.

MAJOR AWARDS WON AT OTHER UNIVERSITIES

Baylor University Student Congress, Outstanding Faculty Member:
1987 Robert C. Rowland

BREADTH AND DEPTH OF PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Communication Studies has a strong core of faculty who teach, advise, and research in the areas of rhetorical and argumentation studies, political communication, and interpersonal and group communication.

Rhetorical Studies and Argumentation Faculty

Brett Bricker, Ph.D., University of Kansas—argumentation and the public sphere
Jay Childers, Ph.D., University of Texas—public sphere and contemporary rhetoric
Scott Harris, Ph.D., Northwestern University—argumentation studies and contemporary rhetoric
Beth Innocenti, Ph.D., University of Illinois—argumentation studies and public address
Meggie Mapes, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University—communication pedagogy and feminist rhetorical criticism
Dorothy Pennington, Ph.D., University of Kansas—African-American rhetoric
Robert C. Rowland, Ph.D., University of Kansas—rhetorical criticism, narrative and mythic studies, argumentation, and contemporary rhetorical practice
Dave Tell, Ph.D., Penn State—rhetorical criticism and critical/cultural analysis

Political Communication Faculty

Mary Banwart, Ph.D., University of Oklahoma—campaign communication and gender issues in political communication
Brett Bricker, Ph.D., University of Kansas—environmental rhetoric
Jay Childers, Ph.D., University of Texas—political communication and citizen engagement
Ashley Muddiman, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin—political media effects, political incivility, and digital news
Robert C. Rowland, Ph.D., University of Kansas—campaign communication, contemporary presidential rhetoric, and political debates
Alcides Velasquez, Ph.D., Michigan State University—social media political activism, social media political effects, and social media and online political participation and expression

Interpersonal and Group Faculty

Dave Cook, Ph.D., University of Kansas—health and organizational communication
Angela N. Gist, Ph.D., University of Missouri—organizational communication
Jeff Hall, Ph.D., University of Southern California—interpersonal communication
Mary Lee Hummert, Ph.D., University of Kansas—interpersonal communication and aging
Adrienne Kunkel, Ph.D., Purdue University—interpersonal communication
Hannah Oliha-Donaldson, Ph.D., University of New Mexico—intercultural communication
Angie Pastorek, Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin—organizational communication

Dorthy Pennington, Ph.D., University of Kansas—intercultural communication
Alesia Woszidlo, Ph.D., University of Arizona—interpersonal communication
Yan Bing Zhang, Ph.D., University of Kansas—interpersonal and intergroup communication

Communication Studies faculty excel at research and a number of faculty members are recognized as national and international scholars of renown. Below is a partial list of faculty accomplishments:

Mary Banwart

- Recipient of the Central States Communication Association Service Award and a participant selected for the Harvard Kennedy School Art and Practice of Leadership Development program.
- Principal Investigator and Academic Director of a nearly \$1.7 million grant from the U.S. State Department focused on the creation of a Women’s Leadership Institute for women from the Middle East and North Africa.
- Well-known political communication scholar using multiple social science and qualitative methods to produce research that has been published in books and journal articles focused on gender in political communication.

Brett Bricker

- Has a developed research program focused on environmental rhetoric that includes publications in *Argumentation and Advocacy*; the *Western Journal of Communication*, and *Communication Studies*, among other journals.
- Has linked environmental communication to study of the public sphere, multiple publics, and counterpublics in a number of essays.

Jay Childers

- Author of *The Evolving Citizen: American Youth and the Changing Norms of Democratic Engagement* (Penn State Press, 2012); *Political Tone: How Leaders Talk and Why*, with Roderick Hart and Colene Lind (University of Chicago Press, 2013).
- Has developed an important research program focused on rhetoric, politics, and democracy in a number of journal essays, including “The Democratic Balance: President McKinley’s Assassination as Domestic Trauma,” *Quarterly Journal of Speech* (2013), 156-179, an essay which is being developed into a book.

Dave Cook

- A leading scholar focused on communication, technology, and health care.
- Oversaw KU Med Centers’s continuing education activities.
- Led three major mass casualty simulation drills to educate and train communities in disaster response.

Angela N. Gist

- Organizational communication scholar with expertise in social mobility and power
- Participates in engaged scholarship with community-based organizations

- Developing a program of critical interpretive research that emerges out of the intersection of three areas of interest: social class, social identity, and organizational culture

Jeff Hall

- Has developed a broad program of research on flirting, friendship, humor, impression management and social media, which has appeared in top journals including *Communication Research*, *Human Communication Research*, and *New Media & Society*.
- Received the Early Career Award from the Interpersonal Division of the National Communication Association in 2015.
- His trade press book *The Five Flirting Styles* landed him on *The Steve Harvey Show* and magazines, newspapers, radio, and television programs nation-wide.

Scott Harris

- Inaugural Gene A. Budig Professor at the University of Kansas in honor of his work with argumentation and debate.
- A leading proponent of using academic debate as a vehicle for studying argument in the public sphere.

Mary Lee Hummert

- Fellow, Gerontological Association of America and Giles-Nussbaum Distinguished Scholar Award from the National Communication Association.
- A leading scholar studying aging and communication with numerous articles in leading journals, many book chapters, and two edited books.
- Three-time recipient of major grants from the National Institute on Aging/National Institutes of Health.

Beth Innocenti

- Has developed normative pragmatic theories of argument with a focus on emotion and style in essays published in *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, *Argumentation*, and *Argumentation and Advocacy*.
- Has published essays on Scottish Enlightenment rhetorical theories in *Rhetorica*, *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, *Rhetoric Review*, and *Advances in the History of Rhetoric*.
- Has provided humanistic accounts of persuasive force that supplement social scientific theories such as the EPPM and ELM.

Adrienne Kunkel

- Has recently published two books—*Researching Interpersonal Relationships* (with Dr. Jimmie Manning, 2014) and co-edited *Relationship Science: Integrating Evolutionary, Neuroscience, and Sociocultural Approaches* (with Dr. Omri Gillath and Dr. Glenn Adams, 2012).
- Has developed a research program reflected in multiple articles in journals inside and outside the discipline focused on individual and group identity and how they are influenced by social support processes.

- Has developed an award-winning line of research on survivors of domestic violence, as well as the advocates and agencies that serve them.

Meggie Mapes

- Examines the intersections of feminist rhetorical thought, new media, and public pedagogy, with articles featured in *Liminalities*, *Kaledioscope*, and *The Feminist Wire*.
- Is currently developing a research program around communication pedagogy, with book chapters available (2010; 2014) and forthcoming publications in *Communication Teacher* and NCA's "Effective Instructional Practices." She's committed to pedagogy as research and believes that the Communication Studies' basic course plays a profound role in undergraduate learning and graduate teaching success.
- Committed to the performative elements of rhetoric and feminism as public pedagogy; she has written and performed two full-length shows, has directed 4 performances, and is the 2015 recipient of the Marion Kleinau Theatre Award.

Ashley Muddiman

- Has developed a research program focused on the theoretical and normative implications of media effects, political incivility, and digital news.
- Received the 2014 Lynda Lee Kaid Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Political Communication Division of the National Communication Association.
- Has been involved with several foundation-funded grant projects, including a project focused on engagement with digital news (with the Engaging News Project) and a project investigating political fact checking (with the American Press Institute).

Hannah Oliha-Donaldson

- Has developed a research program centered around diversity and social justice issues that has been published in the *Howard Journal of Communications* and the *International Communication Gazette* and other journals.
- Has given keynotes and talks for organizations like General Electric, the NAACP, and the U.S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration Federal Workforce program about intergroup dynamics, the promise of diversity, and the impact of personal and social empowerment.

Angie Pastorek

- Collaborative applied organizational communication researcher on issues ranging from fair labor practices to the death penalty and medical consent documentation. Findings and recommendations earned publication in both public sector reports and top communication journals, including *Communication Monographs* and *Health Communication*.
- Theoretical research focuses on exploring organizational exit dynamics based on over 10 years corporate practitioner experience in the fields

of global corporate communication, training and development, and management consulting.

- Published textbook chapters on workplace professionalism for millennials (2015) and managing team conflict (2013, 2015). Earned campus-wide Best Service Learning undergraduate course award in 2013 while completing her PhD at UT - Austin.

Dorothy Pennington

- Author of two books exploring rhetorical practices and cultural diversity.
- Has developed a significant research program in journal articles and book chapters focused on African-American rhetorical practice and intercultural communication.
- A leading proponent of integrating performance into rhetorical scholarship; she is especially well-known for her critical performances on Sojourner Truth.
- Honored by the NCA Feminist and Women's Studies Division as a noted intercultural scholar and mentor.

Robert C. Rowland

- Has published three university press books, one of which (*Shared Land/Conflicting Identity*, with co-author David Frank) won the inaugural Kohrs/Campbell Prize in Rhetorical Criticism.
- Recipient of the Douglas W. Ehninger Distinguished Rhetorical Scholar Award from the National Communication Association and primary speaker on rhetoric at the Reagan Centennial held at USC and the Reagan Library.
- Has published 60 journal articles and book chapters and more than 100 total publications including articles in *Communication Monographs*, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, *Rhetoric & Public Affairs*, *Communication Theory*, the *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, and all of the regional journals and main journals in argumentation.
- Editor-Elect, *Western Journal of Communication*. Rowland is the first editor selected from outside the Western region.

Dave Tell

- Recipient of National Communication Association and Rhetoric Society of America dissertation awards.
- Recipient of Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award for *Confessional Crises and Cultural Politics in the Twentieth-Century* (University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2012).
- Recipient of both the Golden Anniversary Monograph Award and the Karl R. Wallace Award from the National Communication Association and a Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- A leading scholar in rhetorical theory with articles in *Philosophy & Rhetoric*, *Rhetorica*, *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, and other important journals.

Alcides Velazquez

- Originally from Colombia, he received a Fulbright Scholarship to develop his Ph.D. studies in the United States. He was also the 2015 Langston Hughes visiting professor at University of Kansas.
- Has developed a research program focused on social media individual and collective activism, social media political expression, and the digital divide. His research has been published in top journals such as *New Media and Society*, *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media*, *International Journal of Communication*, and *Information, Communication and Society*.

Alesia Woszidlo

- Is an interpersonal communication scholar whose specialty is family communication. She examines the intersection of family of origin experiences, mental health, communication processes, and relationship quality among young-adult and adult family relationships. Additionally, she researches the relationships among leadership, women's issues, and empowerment.
- Is the Academic Director of the Kansas Women's Leadership Institute, a US State Department grant funded women's leadership program.
- Fulbright Scholar, Institute of Psychology, Humboldt University, Berlin, German (2012-2013).

Yan Bing Zhang

- Has developed an extensive research program with thirty-five published journal articles focused on intergroup communication with a particular focus on age and cultural groups. She is interested in the ways in which cognitive (e.g., stereotypes), societal norms (e.g., filial piety), and institutional (e.g., mass media) representations of groups relate to communication processes.
- Her publications have appeared in *Journal of Communication*, *Communication Monographs*, *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*, *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*, *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research*, *Journal of Asian Pacific Communication*, and *New Media & Society*.

A Commitment to Student Development and a Student-Friendly Culture

Communication Studies has a strong commitment to help graduate students develop as scholars, teachers, and professionals. The department's commitment to students is evidenced in assessment data reporting very high student satisfaction. Alumni surveys reflect a similar finding. Additional evidence of the student-centered nature of the program can be found in the extensive development effort the department has developed for graduate students. Highlights of the development effort include:

Nurturing Teaching

Teaching Workshop--New GTAs participate in an intensive teaching workshop in August before they begin teaching and taking classes at KU. The workshop helps prepare them to teach the required public speaking class, but also more broadly gives them pedagogical skills that they can apply in a variety of contexts. The training workshop is so strong that when the Office of Research and Graduate Studies at the University of Kansas initiated efforts to improve GTA training across the university, the COMS program was used as a model for other departments.

Instruction in Pedagogy—New GTAs take a 3-credit class in the Fall semester of their first year at KU focused on pedagogy in Communication Studies. The class is focused on the basic public speaking class, but the topics covered apply across the curriculum. As with the teaching workshop, the Office of Research and Graduate Studies at KU has cited this class as a model for other departments.

Professional Development

On an annual basis, COMS offers eight 90-minute professional development workshops. At the workshops, faculty and senior graduate students help graduate students develop key professional skills. The professional development workshop includes:

Basics of convention submission—this workshop covers the basics of submitting papers and panels to conventions in Communication Studies and related disciplines.

CV development—this workshop covers the basics of constructing an academic CV. Faculty and senior graduate students will provide models and tips for CV construction.

Library research skills—this workshop introduces students to available databases and search strategies for finding material to use in their teaching and research.

Job search process—this workshop outlines the job search process. The focus is on informing second- and third-year doctoral students on the process so that they can be prepared to search for an academic position in their final year in the doctoral program.

Convention presentations—this workshop provides practical tips for making an effective convention presentation. This workshop provides models for how to make a presentation stand out.

Job talks—this workshop provides guidance on how to make an effective job talk either in a phone or an on-campus interview. Job candidates are encouraged to practice their job talks with their advisor prior to the interview.

Nuts and bolts of research—this workshop covers the basic principles of how to submit an article and how to pick a journal for submission, as well as tips for how to develop a research program.

Work life balance—this workshop focuses on the challenges faced by young faculty members and provides strategies for addressing those challenges and building a successful and fulfilling career.

Research Development

Communication Studies works very hard to nurture the research programs of graduate students. Many faculty members focus assignments in graduate classes on helping students develop a research record. In addition, the department has three other research development initiatives:

Colloquium Series

Each year, the department hosts an active colloquium series in which faculty, major scholars from other departments at KU and other universities, and senior graduate students present research to the department. The series for the most recent semester is included elsewhere on the website.

This series provides an opportunity for senior graduate students to present their work, for faculty in the department to talk about important new research projects and for distinguished guests from across the discipline to present research. In the last category among the distinguished scholars to present research in the colloquium series in recent years are David Zarefsky of Northwestern, Karlyn Kohrs Campbell of the University of Minnesota, J. Michael Hogan of Penn State, Chris Segrin of the University of Arizona, and Martin J. Medhurst of Baylor University.

Research Mentoring, Workshops, and Classes

COMS faculty have active programs to mentor graduate students to help them develop papers for presentation at the colloquium, as well as submission to conventions and journals. For example, the department offers a writing workshop series in which students present revised versions of a class paper in order to get feedback to assist in revising for submission to a journal or convention. In addition, faculty members provide feedback to students developing papers from faculty experts in an area of study, as well as the student's faculty advisor. This takes several different forms. First, it takes the form of intensive mentoring. Second, it takes the form of participation in research teams. Third, it takes the form of coursework. The courses include Directed Study projects as well as a tutorial in which the students work intensively with the faculty member through multiple drafts in order to revise two essays for submission to journals in the field.

GRADUATE STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Communication Studies is very proud of the accomplishments of current graduate students. Current students have received college and university wide teaching awards, published essays in regional and national journals, and otherwise been honored for their work. Additionally, there are opportunities for graduate students to be recognized for their outstanding teaching, research, and service, through numerous fellowships and scholarships given at the department level. These awards total ~\$20,000 and are given during the spring semester at the end of the year department party.

Michael Eisenstadt received a Top Paper award in the NCA Critical Culture Studies division for his paper “Definitional argument: Nevada’s commercial UAV debate and the case of threatened prosperity.” This paper was later published in the journal *Argumentation & Advocacy*.

Lindsay Harroff received a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship from the Kansas African Studies Center for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017. She also received a FLAS Fellowship from Yale University’s Council on African Studies for Summer 2016 and a Top Student Paper in the NCA Peace and Conflict Studies Division in 2015.

William Hoffman was an author on two articles, “The dark side of technology: An experimental investigation of the influence of customizability technology on online political selective exposure” in *Computers in Human Behavior*, and “Impact of Customizability technology on political polarization” in *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*.

Ning Liu and **Weston Wiebe** were authors of “Initial communication with and attitudes toward international students: Testing the mediating effects of friendship formation variables” in the *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research*.

Emily Vietti was selected by the University of Kansas Institute for Policy & Social Research as a 2017-18 Doctoral Research Fellow. She was also chosen as a 2016-17 Graduate Writing Fellow at the KU Writing Center.

Marissa Wiley was competitively selected to conduct research as a graduate research assistant on an interdisciplinary \$300,000 NSF grant (Digital Inequalities in the Heartland).

ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND STUDENT PLACEMENT

ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Departmental alumni have developed distinguished careers in and out of the discipline of communication studies. Former students have served in major leadership roles in national and regional organizations. For example, Dr. Bill

Balthrop of the University of North Carolina served as president first of the American Forensic Association and later of the National Communication Association. Dr. Kevin Barger of Texas A&M served as president of the Central States Communication Association, while Dr. Shelly Hinck served as executive secretary. Many other examples of professional accomplishment could be cited.

In addition to professional leadership, department alumni have been recognized for their strong scholarly and teaching records. Below are listed a few examples drawn from the large category of distinguished alumni of the Ph.D. program in Communication Studies at the University of Kansas.

Jaye Shaner Atkinson, Associate Professor and Associate Chair—Georgia State University

Bill Balthrop, Professor—University of North Carolina

Kevin Barge, Professor—Texas A & M University

Ryan Bisel, Associate Professor—University of Oklahoma

Ulla Bunz, Associate Professor—Florida State University

Tom Burkholder, Professor Emeritus—University of Nevada Las Vegas

Scott Campbell, Associate Professor—University of Michigan

Scott Chadwick, Professor and Provost—Xavier University

Phillip Clampett, Professor—University of Wisconsin, Green Bay

Erik Doxtader, Professor—University of South Carolina

Gus Friedrick, Professor Emeritus—Rutgers University

John Fritch, Professor—University of Northern Iowa

Tom Goodnight, Professor—University of Southern California

Michael Hazen, Professor—Wake Forest University

Ed Hinck, Professor—Central Michigan University

Shelly Hinck, Professor and Associate Dean—Central Michigan University

Mary Hoffman, Professor—University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

Susan Huxman, Professor and President—Eastern Mennonite University

Randy Lake, Associate Professor—University of Southern California

Andrew Ledbetter, Associate Professor—Texas Christian University

Karla Leeper, Chief of Staff—Georgia Regents University

John McGrath, Professor—Trinity University

Caryn Medved, Associate Professor—Baruch College

Stephanie Kelley-Romano, Professor—Bates College

Jordan Soliz, Associate Professor—University of Nebraska Lincoln

Mary Tonn, Professor—University of Richmond

Gregg Walker, Professor—Oregon State University

STUDENT PLACEMENT

The very partial list of KU alumni included above is one indication of the quality of the program. Another can be found in recent student placement data. The department has tracked student placement of every completed Ph.D. since 2000 and their initial or current academic or professional position. The list indicates to date

100 percent placement in either academic jobs or positions related to their degree in business, politics, the law, or other relevant fields. Many Communication Studies Ph.D. graduates pursue and achieve an academic career in research universities, teaching institutions and liberal arts colleges. They have gone on to careers in academic administration, the law, and the business world. The one constant among graduates with very different goals is that their coursework and other doctoral study at KU prepared them for great success in their chosen field or sub-field. A representative list of where doctoral graduates have been placed since 2008 is listed below.

Stephenson Beck—North Dakota State University
Ryan Bisel—University of Oklahoma
Kundai Chirindo—Lewis and Clark College
Jennifer Guthrie, UNLV
Makiko Imamura—St. Mary's College
Pam Kennedy—H & R Block, Kansas City
Sarah Partlow Lefevre—Idaho State University
Sue Novak—State University of New York, Potsdam
Kyle Richards, Kearney & Company, Washington, D.C.
Ryan Neville Shepard—University of Arkansas
Yi Song—Beijing Foreign Studies University
Kirsten Theye—Concordia College
Sarah Topp—Trinity University
Astrid Villamil—University of Missouri
Phillip E. Wagner, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
Ben Warner—University of Missouri

COMMUNICATION STUDIES AT KU—GREAT TRAINING FOR A ROLE IN ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

Doctoral education in Communication Studies at KU not only trains students for success in their chosen career, but also for leadership positions in academia, the law and business. Many departmental alumni have served as department chairs, associate deans, and deans. The list is a very long one. Below we list only Ph.D. alumni who have gone on to academic leadership at the level of the Provost, Vice-President, or President in academia or a similar level in business or the law.

Noreen Carrocci, President, Newman College
Scott Chadwick, Provost, Xavier University
Dave Cook, Vice Chancellor, University of Kansas
Jackson Harrell, President, The Harrell Group
Mary Lee Hummert, Vice Provost, University of Kansas
Susan Huxman, President, Eastern Mennonite University
Howard Keim, President, Hesston College
Karla Leeper, Chief of Staff, Georgia Regents University
Karen Lisko, Senior Litigation Consultant, Persuasion Strategies
Shelley Spiecker, Senior Litigation Consultant, Persuasion Strategies
Pam Whitten, Provost, University of Georgia

For further information on graduate education in Communication Studies at the University of Kansas please contact Dr. Robert C. Rowland, the Director of Graduate Studies for the department at rrowland@ku.edu or call him at 785-864-3633.

Communication Studies
Bailey Hall
1440 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 102
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS 66045-7594

Website: coms.ku.edu