Michael E. Burns, Ph.D.

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Summary of Skills & Experiences

Experienced professor, supervisor, facilitator, administrator, and practitioner who uses university and professional experiences to complement teaching, research, and service. Recognized for possessing leadership skills that encourage teamwork among large groups of people and interpersonal communication skills that promote positive and supportive student and work relationships. Praised for creating exciting experiential learning environments that challenge and empower students.

Education

Ph.D. **North Dakota State University**
Graduated: August 2012
Major: Communication
Cognate Area: Higher Education Leadership
Advisors: Dr. Paul E. Nelson & Dr. Amber N. W. Raile

M.A. **Texas State University**
Graduated: May 2007
Major: Communication Studies
Corporate Communication & Training Graduate Certificate
Advisor: Dr. Steven A. Beebe

B.S. **Ohio University**
Graduated Cum Laude: June 2005
Major: Organizational Communication
Minor: Film

University Experience

Assistant Teaching Professor & Director/License Holder of TEDxCU
Department of Communication
University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder CO
August 2023-present

Director of Career Readiness, Founder & Co-Director of CoSearch, TEDxTexasStateUniversity License Holder, & Senior Lecturer
Department of Communication Studies
Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
July 2018-August 2023

Founder & Co-Director of CoSearch, TEDxTexasStateUniversity License Holder, & Senior Lecturer
Honors College & Department of Communication Studies

Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
August 2016-July 2018

Basic Course Director & Senior Lecturer
Department of Communication Studies
Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
July 2013-July 2016

Assistant Professor
Department of Communication
Lasell University, Newton, MA
September 2012-June 2013

Basic Course Director
Department of Communication
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND
May 2010- May 2012

Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Communication
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND
August 2008-May 2012

Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Communication Studies
Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
August 2005-May 2007

Administrative Experience

Director of TEDxCU & License Holder
Department of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, August 2023-present

- Direct, co-curate, co-plan, and execute the 1500 person TEDxCU annual event with a $50,000+ budget: tedxcu.com
- Lead and teach a team of 40-50 undergraduate students event planning, marketing, sponsorship, budgeting and accounting, speaker coaching, and logistics
- Train the 12 student leads in leadership, meeting management, public speaking, collaboration, problem solving, and persuasion
- Manage all rules and regulations required by TED to maintain university's TEDx license
- Worked closely with student leaders to manage team meetings, speaker recruitment and selection, entertainment and fine arts experiences, Emcee selection and training, theme selection, audience activations, food and beverage, VIP and speaker after party, technical needs, budget, set design, and show production
- Lead student team through all pre-production, production, and post-production needs
- Build and maintain relationships with campus and community partners to ensure an accessible and inclusive experience for the University of Colorado Boulder community

- Work with venue operations team, audio engineers, videographer, photographer, and box office manager to create a higher quality production
- Train and support speaker coaches while also coaching speakers each year

Results

- Increased team membership from 3 to 60 in the first three years
- Secured sponsorships with dozens of organizations resulting in over $40,000 in support
- Created an innovative, competitive, and rewarding leadership experience for undergraduate students
- Created partnership with two Denver area high schools that teaches their students about public speaking and university life
- Created a more efficient and student-centered organizational chart with clearer job descriptions for each team
- Re-designed organization and record keeping processes
- Created a transition plan to avoid confusion when student leaders and members leave the organization upon graduating

Director of Communication Studies Career Readiness Program

Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, July 2018-August 2023

- Creator and Director of an innovative career readiness program that helped undergraduate and graduate students discover and examine career options in the communication field by building a personalized career pathway comprised of hands-on experiences, alumni-mentoring, networking, internships, and specialized advising.
- Worked closely with the Academic Advising Center and Career Services to ensure each Career Readiness student receives individualized and comprehensive advising
- Recruited a class of 10-14 undergraduate and 10 graduate students each academic year to be a part of this selective program
- Created and curated the career readiness course curriculum by continuously adapting to evolving industry needs and expectations related to communication skills
- Planned and hosted networking events for career readiness students, faculty, and alumni mentors
- Planned and hosted spotlight speakers and panels focusing on various areas of career preparedness and other communication topics
- Advised and coached career readiness students each semester to ensure they are meeting their career pathway goals and appropriately adapting pathway based on their new experiences and continued self-discovery
- Created and updated all marketing, public relations, website, and recruiting material and information for program
- Oversaw department's internship program and courses for all undergraduate and graduate communication studies majors and minors

Results:

- Created and curated an Alumni Mentor network made up of over 150 alumni volunteers who participate in one-on-one mentoring, speaking engagements, internship development, and networking events

- Recruited highly motivated and top performing communication studies majors and minors
- Achieved 100% internship placement for Career Readiness students
- Increased student engagement with the department faculty and alumni
- Built an innovative program that starts with our students' skillsets, interests, and passions to explore multiple career opportunities before narrowing rather than starting with a singular job and working towards it
- Consulted and spoke at other universities and conferences about creating a career readiness program (Lasell University, Ashford University, National Communication Association)
- Established exclusive internship programs for Communication Studies students with two local organizations

TEDxTexasStateUniversity License Holder & Co-Curator
Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX January 2016-August 2023

- Co-curated, planned, and executed the Department of Communication Studies and College of Fine Arts and Communication's largest public event with a $25,000 budget
- Led and taught a team of undergraduate and graduate student event planning, marketing, sponsorship, and logistics interns
- Worked closely with other faculty co-curators to create a dynamic learning experience for our team of student interns
- Managed all rules and regulations required by TED to maintain university's TEDx license
- Worked closely with student interns and faculty co-curators to plan and manage team meetings, speaker recruitment and selection, entertainment and fine arts experiences, MC selection and training, theme selection, audience activations, food and beverage, VIP and speaker after party, technical needs, budget, set design, and show production
- Led team through all pre-production, production, and post-production needs
- Built and maintained relationships with campus and community partners to ensure an accessible and inclusive experience for the Texas State and San Marcos community
- Worked with venue operations team, audio engineers, videographer, photographer, and box office managers to create a higher quality production
- Trained and supported speaker coaches while also coaching two speakers a year
- Participated and attended TED Fest in New York City to network with TED Headquarters and other TEDx organizers from around the world

Results

- Sold out every TEDxTexasStateUniversity event since its start in 2016: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3rzA_Eiw-k&t=64s
- Produced a profitable event every year averaging $8,000-$11,000 in revenue
- Awarded $5,500 in local grant money to support the event
- Secured sponsorships with dozens of organizations resulting in over $40,000 in support
- Created an innovative, competitive, and rewarding internship experience for undergraduate and graduate students
- Produced 53 high quality TEDx talks over six events with over 700,000 views (as of October 2022)

CoSearch Co-Director
College of Fine Arts & Communication, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX March 2015-August 2023

- Co-creator of CoSearch, a program that promoted interdisciplinary research that solved real world problems by following the entrepreneurial start-up weekend model
- Developed, planned, hosted, and facilitated, with Co-Director, a two-day intensive research competition where interdisciplinary research teams conceptualize a project, create a research plan, and compete for $10,000 of research startup money
- Worked closely with local business leaders and politicians to engage the community in CoSearch through donations, judging, coaching, and other forms of support
- Guided 40 faculty members representing all academic colleges though communicative activities that foster interdisciplinary and creative problem-solving
- Led all marketing, promotion, event planning, and entertainment efforts for the CoSearch competition
- Led initiative to expand CoSearch nationally and internationally and build research partnerships with other universities

Results:

- Raised over $50,000 of donations in two years that is used to support the top two CoSearch teams' research plans
- Built a successful interactive program that has broken down academic silos and connected faculty from all academic colleges at the university
- Doubled the participation of CoSearch after first year
- Created the first and only research startup program competition in the United States: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NjjN3FAa7A&t=5s
- Led and hosted CoSearch competitions and workshops with other colleges and universities (Texas State College of Science and Engineering, North Dakota State University, The Ohio State University, and the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Belo Horizonte, Brazil)

Basic Course Director
Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, July 2013-July 2016

- Managed 40-50 instructors, approximately 7,000 students, and over 200 class sections per year of the basic communication course
- Developed, planned, and presented the Teaching & Learning Academy weeklong training program for the instructional assistants, teaching assistants, and adjunct instructors
- Trained instructional assistants, teaching assistants, and adjunct instructors to teach and manage their individual sections of COMM 1310 while providing guidance at "just in time" training workshops over the semester
- Mentored struggling students and developed success plans specific to COMM 1310
- Partnered with Student Affairs to create opportunities for COMM 1310 faculty to engage students outside the classroom to increase retention efforts
- Wrote and updated course guidebook annually to ensure activities, worksheets, and assignments are serving the needs of our students and instructors

- Worked as a member of the University General Education Council to constantly ensure state mandated core learning objectives are being met and the course is being taught consistently
- Oversaw State, university, and department assessment practices with Assistant Course Director for COMM 1310 to ensure program has continuous improvement

Results:

- Successfully adapted course curriculum, assignments, and training to meet the new State General Education Core requirements
- Co-created assessment methods for new State General Education Core Requirements and department learning objectives
- Collaborated with Student Affairs to incorporate university retention messages into the COMM 1310 curriculum
- Built a positive and supportive working community among instructional assistants, teaching assistants, and adjunct instructors
- Branded the Teaching & Learning Academy and increased its College, University, and public exposure
- Developed and implemented the Graduate Student Mentoring Program to strengthen graduate student retention
- Recruited largest Teaching & Learning Academy class of instructional assistants in program's history
- Streamlined application and record keeping processes, reduced program costs for Department, and increased efficiency
- Maintains the National Communication Association's status as a Program of Excellence in Basic Communication Course training, assessment, and curriculum

Assistant Chair

Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, August 2014-December 2015

- Coordinated and oversaw the recruitment and selection process of the most highly talented non-full-time instructors available to educate and engage our students
- Designed and implemented the annual digital strategy to tell the Department's story to internal and external audiences
- Worked with Freshmen Academic Advisors to strengthen understanding of the major and minor
- Mentored students on academic probation and developed success plans
- Coordinated the promotion of graduate instructional assistants to graduate teaching assistants based on which students have the greatest potential to successfully balance teaching and graduate studies
- Managed digital communication team including work-study students, interns, administrative staff, graduate assistants, and faculty who will created and updated online content to promote and create Department awareness and loyalty among students and alumni
- Developed additional opportunities for student learning outside the traditional classroom through a more visible online outreach program

- Co-planned Department Advisory Council meetings that worked with professionals from industry to ensure our undergraduate and graduate programs are providing students with experiences that will make them more employable
- Led effort to attract and educate more undergraduate majors and graduate students by increasing our digital presence and offering a more market-driven curriculum with applicable student learning opportunities

Results:

- Created and fostered a successful partnership with Student Affairs that assisted their departments with assessment and programming
- Assisted in implementing new market-driven courses into the curriculum to attract more majors and minors
- Project-managed, wrote, and launched new Department website
- Increased Department online presence by coordinating social media and web communications
- Created and delivered new "Spot Light Program" presentations at university large visitation days that increased Department visibility and improved recruitment efforts
- Re-designed Department's COMM Week to better engage undergraduate students and provide them with professional mentors

Basic Course Director

Communication Department, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, May 2010-May 2012

- Managed 30 instructors, 1700 students, and 50-60 class sections per semester of the basic communication course
- Developed, planned, and presented the weeklong training program for the teaching assistants and adjunct instructors
- Trained teaching assistants and adjunct instructors to teach and manage their individual sections of COMM 110, Public Speaking, while providing guidance at weekly meetings
- Wrote and updated course workbook annually to ensure activities, worksheets, and assignments were serving the needs of our students and instructors
- Worked closely with the department assessment committee to constantly ensure learning objectives were being met and the course was being taught consistently

Results:

- Produced the strongest COMM 110 teaching team in the ten-year history of the course based on an overall increase in instructor evaluations
- Built a positive and supportive working community among teaching assistants and adjunct instructors

Formal Mentoring Experience

Faculty in Residence, Honors and Terry Scholars Living Learning Communities

Department of Residence Life, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX July 2013-May 2019

- Held Lobby Office Hours two hours a week in Laurel Honors House
- Led and participate in a Ropes Course trip for the Honors Living Learning Community
- Organized weekly dinner with Honors Learning Community
- Participated in "Meet Burns Night" with the residents of Laurel and Retama Halls
- Led a "How to Study in College" program for residents

- Led the "Oh S**t Now What?" program for residents
- Led a resume and cover letter preparation program for residents
- Led a time management program for residents
- Led and organize a "Give Me a Study Break" program for residents during finals week
- Organized and lead a Hiking expedition with Laurel and Retama Halls
- Participated in "Popsicles and Professors" at Tower Hall
- Organized and present a COMM 1310 Speech Prep program called "Speak Easy" for the Laurel, Retama, Brogdon, and Tower Halls.
- Prepared and present a Life Coaching program for residents
- Mentored students of Laurel and Retama Halls as needed
- Organized and take 50 Honors Living Learning Community members to see university musical productions each semester
- Participated in Move-In Day
- Presented for Res Life at all Bobcat Recruitment Days
- Organized and take 20 Honors Living Learning Community students to a movie
- Served as Res Life liaison for "Smarty" alcohol presentations for all Learning Communities
- Participated and speak at New Student Orientations
- Attended all Laurel and Retama Halls' weekly staff meetings
- Hosted "Give Me a Break" activities during finals week while students are studying
- Worked closely with RAs to plan all Honors and Terry Scholars Living Learning Communities' programs and events

Results:

- Created a safe, dynamic, supportive, welcoming, and healthy community for a diverse group of first- and second-year students
- Mentored students' through their transitions to college resulting in higher retention rates than residence halls without learning communities
- Mentored students from all disciplines on coursework resulting in a higher GPA than residence halls without learning communities
- Motivated students to engage in good student behaviors inside and outside the classroom
- Assisted with Increasing Honors Living Learning Community size from 70 students to 140

Industry Experience

NBC Today Show Olympic Production Coordinator/Manager

Olympic Broadcasts: Torino 2006, Beijing 2008, London 2012, Rio de Janeiro 2016, PyeongChang 2018, Tokyo 2020, Beijing 2022, Paris 2024 January 2006-present

- Managed 15-26 Today Show runners while coordinating guest and talent booking and transportation to all show shoots, Olympic events, and live broadcasts
- Assisted with the partnership with the IOC to successfully plan and manage Olympic broadcasting events while following IOC rules and regulations
- Researched the Olympic cities by working with city and Olympic officials to prepare for Today Show staff arrival and live broadcasts
- Organized and assisted with setting up office workspace, news set, control rooms, and green room/dressing rooms

- Systematized daily logistics schedule and show rundown to ensure all talent, guests, and props are properly transported, delivered, prepared, and in place for live broadcast
- Worked closely with Today Show Executive team to safeguard talent and guest confidentiality and show security plans
- Worked as team lead to assist runners in completing preproduction preparation, production needs, and post production cleanup

Results:

- Created a mobile media outlet with all production amenities to allow for immediate productivity and minimal production delays
- Eliminated uncertainty for production staff and talent that provided a smooth and workable environment by bridging cultural differences
- Created a welcoming and stress-free environment for talent, guests, athletes, and Olympic officials that fostered strong and lasting partnerships
- Fostered a learning environment for runners that provided valuable television and news experiences: https://vimeo.com/259004602

NBC Today Show Boston Marathon Bombing Production Coordinator

Boston Marathon Bombing and Man Hunt Coverage: Boston, MA, April 2013

- Assisted with location scouting for breaking news and show broadcasts
- Coordinated guest and talent booking and transportation during broadcasts
- Prepared guests for live interviews by vetting stories and personal descriptions of their experiences prior to going on air
- Coordinated staff lodging, transportation, and meals
- Assisted producers, talent, and production managers with preproduction preparation, production needs, and post production cleanup

Results:

- Provided research to Today Show staff and navigated staff and guests through city allowing for immediate productivity and news coverage upon arrival to Boston
- Created and maintained a calm and supportive atmosphere during intense and often stressful live broadcasts, especially during man hunt

Hospital Public Relations/Internal Communication Specialist & Project Manager

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, August 2007-July 2008

- Wrote internal and marketing communications including, patient education material, employee newsletters, speeches, advertisements, and news releases representing various parts of the health system
- Managed website development and video projects by working on content development, production management, and design elements
- Researched all subject areas of communications by interviewing employees and patients, reading research articles, and studying existing media

Results:

- Created positive work relationships with physicians, staff, and patients
- Produced well written and creatively designed communications that were used to represent the health system across the United States

Teaching

Undergraduate Courses Taught

North Dakota State University:

COMM 110- Fundamentals of Public Speaking
COMM 112- Understanding Media and Social Change
COMM 114- Human Communication
COMM 212- Interpersonal Communication
COMM 214- Persuasive Speaking and Theory
COMM 321- Communication Theory
COMM 391- Free-lance Video Production and Planning

Lasell University:

COM 101- Understanding Mass Media
COM 103- Human Communication
COM 205- Media Ethics
COM 309- Sport Communication

Texas State University:

COMM 1310- Fundamentals of Human Communication (on-campus and study abroad)
COMM 2315- Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
COMM 2330- Small Group Communication
COMM 3302- Rhetorical Criticism (study abroad)
COMM 3315- Directed Study in Event Planning
COMM 3322- Communication Career Readiness
COMM 3320- Sport Communication
COMM 4329- Communication Training and Human Resource Development
COMM 4347- Leadership and Communication
COMM 4390- Communication Internship
HON 2309B- Re-Humanizing Communication
HON 2309O- Talking Like TED
HON 3397H- International Culture Abroad (study abroad)
HON 4391- Directed Study on Intercultural Communication (study abroad)
US 1100- Honors University Seminar

University of Colorado Boulder:

COMM 1600- Group Interaction
COMM 2650- Business and Professional Communication
COMM 3320- Persuasion in Society
COMM 3430- Communication Culture and Sport
COMM 3620- Advanced Teamwork and Collaboration
CMCI 3910- CMCI Practicum- Planning TEDxCU
CMCI 4021- Prime Time: Sports and Public Performance

Graduate Courses Taught

Lasell University:

COM 702- Organizational Communication

COM 703- Communication Research
COM 738- Persuasion and Public Opinion

Texas State University:
COMM 5100- Teaching Communication
COMM 5315- Directed Study on Sport Communication
COMM 5315- Directed Study on Persuasion Research
COMM 5315- Directed Study on Applied Communication
COMM 5324- Instructional Communication (on campus and study abroad)
COMM 5331- Seminar in Persuasive Communication
COMM 5371- Communication Training & Development
COMM 5390- Communication Internship

Areas of Teaching Interest
Applied Communication Research
Business and Professional Communication
Communication and Technology
Communication Theory
Event Planning
Human Communication
Interpersonal Communication
Instructional Communication
Leadership
Nonverbal Communication
Organizational Communication
Persuasion
Public Speaking
Small Group Communication
Sport Communication
Thesis Development
Training and Development

Teaching Abroad
Lead a communication, culture, and sport education abroad program to London, Manchester, and Liverpool England every summer for the University of Colorado Boulder. Teach COMM 3430, Communication, Culture, and Sport, using a city as a text teaching method to explore the influence of sport on how we communicate and perceive cultures. This course focuses on many topics including gender, ableism, race, commercialization, fan culture, and sport spectacle. Course Instagram page

Co-led a communication and fine arts study abroad programs to London and Paris every May and Rome, Florence, and Vienna at Texas State University for four years. Co-taught introduction to communication, rhetorical criticism, honors international culture, an honors undergraduate research course, and a graduate instructional communication course. Worked with music faculty to develop a successful and creative co-curriculum using the city as a text teaching method.

Thesis Committees

Kaylee Sugimoto, Spring 2026, Master's Theis Committee Member, *We're Not an ATM: Collegiate Football Professional Identity and NIL*, University of Colorado Boulder

Sophia S. Cori, Fall 2025, Master's Thesis Committee Member, *Analyzing Interdisciplinary Team Development in CoSearch*, Kansas State University

Valentina Ishchenko, Spring 2025, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member, *Rings of Fire: The Olympic Institution Behind its "Diplomatic" Veneer,* University of Colorado Boulder

Amanda Blake Carpenter, Spring 2020, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Supervising Professor, *Sex Education Made Easy: The Creation of and Justification for a Web Series that provides a Solution to the Current State of Sexual Education in the United States of America,* Texas State University

Jason Cathey, Spring 2019, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Supervising Professor, *Preparing College Students for Graduation: A Training on Motivation and Preparedness,* Texas State University

Chloe Scarborough, Spring 2017, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Supervising Professor, *Maintaining Fulfilling Relationships in an Era of Technological Communication,* Texas State University

Comprehensive Exam Committees

Dillon McCoy, Summer 2023 Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Luis Ortiz, Spring 2023 Master's Comprehensive Exam Chair
Elizabeth Yanas, Spring 2023 Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Misty Cason, Spring 2021 Master's Comprehensive Exam Chair
Morgan Cessac, Fall 2021, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Daniel Galindo, Spring 2021, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Riki Van Meter, Spring 2021, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Jason Galarza, Spring 2020, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Katy Head, Spring 2020, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Luis Vasquez, Spring 2020, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
David Beadle, Spring 2019, Master's Comprehensive Exam Chair
Brandon Spenrath, Spring 2017, Master's Comprehensive Exam Chair
Jonathan Alba, Spring 2017, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Tianna Cobb, Spring 2017, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Matthew Winn, Spring 2017, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member
Woods McCormack, Spring 2015, Master's Comprehensive Exam Committee Member

Awards & Honors

2022 Top Paper Award, Training and Development Division, National Communication Association

2020 University Presidential Award for Excellence in Service, Texas State University

2019 College of Fine Arts and Communication Presidential Award for Excellence in Service, Texas State University

2018 Favorite Professor Award, Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, Texas State University

2017 Top Paper Award, Communication Education Division, International Communication Association

2017 Favorite Professor Award, Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, Texas State University

2016 Student Foundation Excellence Award, Student Foundation Texas State University

2016 John R. Hood Honors Professor of the Year Award, Honors College Texas State University

2016 College of Fine Arts and Communication Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching, Texas State University

2016 Bobcat Preview Den Namesake for Freshmen Class, LBJ Student Center, Texas State University

2016 Favorite Professor Award, Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, Texas State University

2015 Top Paper Award, Master's Education Division, National Communication Association

2015 College of Fine Arts and Communication Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching, Texas State University

2015 Runner Up for the Central States Communication Association's New Teacher Award

2015 Favorite Professor Award, Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, Texas State University

Fall 2015 Guest Football Coach, Athletic Department Advising Center, Texas State University

Fall 2015 Guest Director for *Evita,* Department of Theatre and Dance, Texas State University

2013 Top Paper Award, Communication Theory Interest Group, Central States Communication Association

2012 Department of Communication Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, North Dakota State University

2012 Department of Residence Life Distinguished Service Award, North Dakota State University

2012 Top Paper Award, Spiritual Communication Division, National Communication Association

2012 Blue Key Honor Society Mentor Award, North Dakota State University

2012 Top Paper Award, Communication Theory Interest Group, Central States Communication Association

2012 Apple Polisher Teaching Award, North Dakota State University

2011 Cooper Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Teaching Assistant, Central States Communication Association

2011 Top Paper Award, Intercultural Interest Group, Central States Communication Association

2011 Department of Residence Life Faculty Mentor of the Year Award, North Dakota State University

2010 College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher, North Dakota State University

2010 Top Paper Award, Public Relations Interest Group, Central States Communication Association

Winter 2010 Outstanding Resident Hall Faculty Mentor Award, North Dakota State University

2007 Outstanding Graduate Student in the Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University

2007, College of Fine Arts and Communication Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Texas State University

2006, Top Student Paper Award, Health Communication Division, National Communication Association

Internal & External Funding

$1,000- Common Experience Grant- Texas State University Common Experience, co-directed with Dr. Kristen Farris. August 2022

$1,000- Common Experience Grant- Texas State University Common Experience, co-directed with Dr. Kristen Farris. September 2019

$1,000- Common Experience Grant- Texas State University Common Experience, co-directed with Marsha Burney and Dr. Kristen Farris. September 2018

$2,500- Main Street Organization- City of San Marcos. Support for TEDxTexasStateUniversity, co-directed with Marsha Burney and Dr. Kristen Farris. June 2018

$16,000- Research Enhancement Program-Texas State University. Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Tricia Burke to research the culture of health at Texas State University. April 2018

$50,000- Hahn Public. Start-up funds to create and run the first three years of CoSearch with Dr. Marian Houser. May 2015

$16,000- Research Enhancement Program- Texas State University. Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Tricia Burke to research family communication during the college transition. April 2014

Scholarship

Published Articles/Book Chapters

Burns, M. E. (2015). Recruiting prospective students with stories: How personal stories influence the process of choosing a university. *Communication Quarterly, 63,* 99-118. doi: 10.1080/01463373.2014.965838

Burns, M. E. (2009). Gold medal storytelling: NBC's hegemonic use of Olympic athlete narratives. *Journal of the Communication, Speech, & Theater Association of North Dakota*, *22*, 19-29.

Burns, M. E., Farrell, L. C., Pearson, J. C., & Jorgenson, D. (2016) Spirituality's influence on interpersonal competence and friend group satisfaction. *Journal of the Communication, Speech, & Theater Association of North Dakota, 29,* 28-41.

Burns, M. E., Farris, K. L., Paz, M., & Dyhre, S. D. (2020) Thriving instead of surviving: The role of the reasoned action in assessing the basic course. *Basic Communication Course Annual*, *33*, 230-256. https://ecommons.udayton.edu/bcca/vol33/iss1/12

Burns, M. E., Houser, M. L., & LeBlanc Farris, K. (2017). Theory of planned behavior in the classroom: An examination of the instructor confirmation-interaction model. *Higher Education*, *18,* 1-18, doi: 10.1007/s10734-017-0187-0

Burns, M. E. & Miller, J. H. (2024). Public speaking's transferable skills for industry. In Munz, S. M., Mckenna-Buchanan T., & Wright, A. M. (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of public speaking research and theory.* Routledge.

Burns, M. E. & Pearson, J. C. (2011). An exploration of family communication environment, everyday talk, and family satisfaction. *Communication Studies, 62,* 171-185. doi: 10.1080/10510974.2010.523507

Farris, K. L., Avila Regalado, A., Green, L. Burns, M. E., & Houser, M. L. (2025). "I did not come back the same:" Implications of a study abroad basic communication course. *Basic Communication Course Annual, 37,* 67-94. https://ecommons.udayton.edu/bcca/vol37/iss1/5

Farris, K. L. & Burns, M. E. (2022). Integrating university value messages into the basic

communication course: Implications for student recall and adjustment to college. *Basic Communication Course Annual, 34,* 57-77. https://ecommons.udayton.edu/bcca/vol34/iss1/6.

Farris, K. L. & Burns, M. E. (2022). Pedagogical approaches in instructional communication. In Houser, M. L. & Hosek, A. (Eds.), *Handbook of instructional communication*. Kendall Hunt.

Farris, K. L., Burns, M. E., Burke. T. J. Bezner, J. R. (2023). Employee culture of health: Perceptions and the development of a training intervention. International Journal of Workplace Health Management. doi: 10.1108/IJWHM-O7-2022-0100

Head, K., Palmisano, B., Farris, K. L., Burns, M. E., Houser, M. L. (2021). Teaching small group and team dynamics through the *Amazing Race* experience. *Carolinas Communication Annual, 37,* 73-79.

Houser, M. L., Burns, M. E., & Driver, N. R. (2007). Communication with college students about STIs: Assessing message effectiveness and preferred source and channel. *Human Communication, 10*, 311-328.

Media Recognition

McGraw Hill Communication Corner Podcast. "Career Readiness." March, 2025, https://www.mheducation.com/highered/blog/2024/07/communication-corner-podcast.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawJDyKRleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHROTXPC67q3KXW4wfcX_WwRxTNm7v6CO86tVe6z6LtVDlAqsCabOq1jeyA_aem__V45aPq3vq3CvuCsE_6-Fg

9 News Denver. "University of Colorado professor gets front row view to Paris Olympics. July 27, 2024, https://www.9news.com/article/sports/olympics/cu-professor-2024-olympic-games-paris/73-6677888e-f9f7-4fd4-b88f-0f50bbb8f18d

US News & World Report. "Emailing your college professor: Do's and don'ts." July 26, 2022, https://www.usnews.com/education/articles/emailing-your-college-professor-dos-and-donts

North Dakota State University News. "My NDSU education plays an enormous role in my success." April 21, 2022, https://www.ndsu.edu/news/view/detail/68210/

Ohio News. "Five bobcat alumni Share their Tokyo 2020 Olympic experiences." September 9, 2021, https://www.ohio.edu/news/2021/09/five-bobcat-alumni-share-their-tokyo-2020-olympic-experiences

KXAN Austin. "Behind the scenes of broadcasting the Tokyo Olympics during a pandemic." August 3, 2021, https://www.kxan.com/sports-general/japan-2020/behind-the-scenes-of-broadcasting-the-tokyo-olympics-during-a-pandemic/

AgWeek. "CoSearch NDSU addresses 'Farm of the Future' idea." November 4, 2019, https://www.agweek.com/business/cosearch-ndsu-addresses-farm-of-the-future-idea

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KXAN Austin. “TX State professor, students helping NBC at the Winter Olympics.” January 18, 2019, https://www.kxan.com/news/local/austin/tx-state-professor-students-helping-nbc-at-the-winter-olympics/

Convention Presentations

Farris, K. L., Burns, M. E., Paz, M. Ngondo, P., & Burney, M. (2025, November). Elevating student communication learning experiences through TEDx events. Presented in the Experimental Learning in Communication Division at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Denver, CO

Burns, M. E. (2024, November). Public Speaking’s Transferable Skills for Industry. Panel presented in the Basic Communication Course Division at the meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Farris, K. L., Avila, A., Green., L., & Burns, M. E. (2024, November). “I did not come back the same.”: Greater regard of intercultural interactions through a study abroad foundational communication course. Paper presented in the Basic Communication Course Division at the meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Frei, S., Chambers, B., Burns, M. E., & Magas, J. L. (2023, October). So, you want to teach abroad? Ideas for building and maintaining a business communication study abroad program. Panel presented at the Association for Business Communication annual conference, Denver, CO.

Farris, K.L., Burns, M. E., & Houser M. L. (2023, February). Promoting student academic well-being through study abroad programming in the basic communication course. Short course presented at the meeting of the Western States Communication Association, Phoenix, AZ.

Farris, K. L., Burns, M. E., & Burke. T. J. (2022, November). An exploratory investigation of employee perceptions for the development of a culture of health training intervention. To be presented as top paper in the Training and Development division at the meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Burns, M. E., Farris, K. L., & Dye. L. (2021, November). Transforming the training and development course: Renewing the needs centered model for the virtual trainee. Presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Seattle, WA.

Penya, L. S., Carver, M., Jabro, A., Bronstein, C., Burns, M. E, & Borda, J. L. (2020, November). At the crossroads for survival: Innovative practices for undergraduate communication programs. Panel presented virtually at the meeting of the National Communication Association.

Burns, M. E., Farris, K. L., Paz, M., & Dyhre, S. D. (2019, November). The role of theory of planned behavior in assessing the basic course. Presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.

Burns, M. E., LeClair, C., & Beadle, D. (2019 April). Hosting a TEDx event at your university. Short course presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Omaha, NE.

Houser, M. L., Burns, M. E., Carberry, E., Mills, S., & Tristan, A. (2019, April). Communicating and assessing goals of living learning communities: A case study. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Omaha, NE.

Burns, M. E., Donahue, N., Burke, T. J., & Davis, J. (2019, April). To ground or abandon the helicopter: The parent experience with the college transition. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Omaha, NE.

Jacobi, L., Cvancara, K., Munz, S., Burns, M. E., Fox, J., Pensoneau-Conway, S. L. (2018, April). Dusting off the curriculum: Making a difference with innovative approaches in the basic course. Panel presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Milwaukee, WI.

Houser, M. L., Carberry, E., Mills, S., Tristan, A., & Burns, M. E. (2017, November). Assessing campus living-learning communities: Locating communicated goals for the unintended consequences. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Dallas, TX.

Burns, M. E. (2017, November). Celebrating Honors: Reunions, anniversaries, and special events. Panel presented at the meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council, Atlanta, GA.

Burns, M. E. (2017, November). Re-Humanizing Communication: An honors course on technology and relationships. Course presented at the meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council, Atlanta, GA.

Farris, L. K., & Burns, M. E. (2017, May). Integrating organizational value message into course curriculum: Implication for student learning and adjustment to college. Paper presented as top paper in the Communication Education Division at the meeting of the International Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

Burke, T. J., Burns, M. E., & Waldbuesser, C. (2017, March). Family communication patterns and student well-being during the transition to college. Paper presented in the at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Minneapolis, MN.

Burns, M. E., Houser, M. L., & LeBlanc Farris, K. (2016, November). Theory of planned behavior

in the classroom: An examination of the instructor confirmation-interaction model. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Burns, M. E., Burke, T. J., & Waldubesser C. (2016, April) College, a family experience: The influence of family communication patterns on young adults' stress during the transition to college. Paper presented as a top paper in the Communication Education Division at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Grand Rapids, MI.

Houser, M. L., Burns, M. E. Villagran, M. M., & Ingwersen, P. (2015, November) Assessing the behavioral intent of college students' binge drinking and risky sexual behavior: A graduate student service-learning project. Paper presented as top paper in the Master's Education Division at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV.

Burns, M. E., Houser, M. L., & LeBlanc Farris, K. (2015, May). *Old theory new possibilities: Theory of planned behavior changing how we predict student communication*. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Communication Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Burns, M. E., Houser, M. L., & LeBlanc Farris, K. (2015, April). *Effects of teacher confirmation on students' behavioral intention to communicate with instructors*. Paper to be presented as a top paper in the Communication Education Division at the meeting of Central States Communication Association, Madison, WI.

Burns, M. E. (2015, April). Pre-conference featured speaker on directing the basic course and training graduate instructional assistants. Four-hour pre-conference presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Madison, WI.

Burns, M. E., Houser, M. L., & LeBlanc Farris, K. (2014, November). *Combating student-athlete stereotypes: Effects of teacher confirmation on student-athletes' behavioral intention to communicated with them*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Burns, M. E., & Raile, A. N. W. (2014, November). *The development and validation of the narrative probability and narrative fidelity scale*s. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Brazeal, L., Broeckelman-Post, M., Burns, M. E., Hosek, A. (2014, November). *Transitioning into a new DCD role in the presence of the past BCD*. Panel presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Burns, M. E., & Raile, A. N. W. (2013, November). *Story-selling: The persuasive effects of using stories in university recruitment.* Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Washington D.C.

Farrell, L. C., Burns, M. E., & Pearson, J. C. (2013, November). *The dating equation: Attachment,*

dating goals, dating history, and emotional support as predictors of dating behaviors. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Washington D.C.

Burns, M. E., Pearson, J. C., Farrell, L. C., & Jorgenson, D. (2013, April). *Spirituality's influence on interpersonal competence and friend group satisfaction*. Paper presented as top paper in the Communication Theory Interest Group at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Kansas City, MO.

Farrell, L. C., Pearson, J. C., & Burns, M. E. (2012, November). *A reexamination of family schemata: Spirituality as a predictor of family communication environment and satisfaction*. Paper presented as the top paper in the Spiritual Communication Division at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Orlando, FL.

Farrell, L. C., Yu, N., Crawford, E., & Burns, M. E. (2012, November). *Realism, relevance, and desirability: An investigation of the effects of anti-drinking ads among high and low sensation seekers*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Orlando, FL.

Burns, M. E. (2012, March). *Recruiting prospective students with stories: How personal stories influence the process of choosing a university.* Paper presented as top paper in the Communication Theory Interest Group at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Cleveland, OH.

Burns, M. E., Pearson, J. C., & Yu, N. (2011, November). *An exploration of everyday talk through culture: A comparison of American and Chinese families*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Pearson, J. C, Burns, M. E., & Yu, N. (2011, April). *How different are American and Chinese families? A comparison of family communication environment and family satisfaction*. Paper presented as top paper in the Intercultural Interest Group at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Milwaukie, WI.

Burns, M. E. & Pearson, J. C. (2011, February). *An exploration of family communication environment, everyday talk, and family satisfaction.* Paper presented at the meeting of the Western States Communication Association, Monterey, CA.

Burns, M. E., Houser, M. L., & Yu, N. (2010, November). *Quantifying active patient behaviors: The development and validation of the active patient communication scale*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.

Burns, M. E. & Littlefield, R. S. (2010, April). *Miscommunication in the Sago, West Virginia mining disaster: The challenges of engaging the public through narratives*. Paper presented as top paper in the Public Relations Interest Group at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Cincinnati, OH.

Burns, M. E. (2009, November). *Gold medal storytelling: NBC's hegemonic use of Olympic athlete narratives*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Burns, M. E., Pearson, J. C., & Carmon, A. F. (2009, November). *A new model of relational quality: A mediating relationship between privacy management, relational uncertainty, and relational quality*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Burns, M. E., Farrell, L., & Hinderaker, A. (2009, September). *Becoming a Bison and assimilating into the herd: An action research approach to improving student engagement at NDSU*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Communication, Speech, and Theater Association of North Dakota, Bismarck, ND.

Burns, M. E. (2009, April). *Persuade us when we're down: Using the American Dream myth as a persuasive framework for a presidential eulogy*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, St. Louis, MO.

Burns, M. E. & Burney, M. (2008, April). *Communication as treatment for living: Active patient behavior and communication satisfaction as predictors of treatment compliance*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern States Communication Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

Hoffman, M., Burns, M. E., & Fyke, J. (2007, March). *Training the trainer: Professionals, faculty, and students consider the state of training education*. Panel presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Minneapolis, MN.

Burns, M. E. & Driver, N. R. (2006, November). *Communication with college students about STIs: Assessing message effectiveness and preferred source and channel*. Paper presented as top student paper in the Health Communication Division at the meeting of the National Communication Association, San Antonio, TX.

Invited Speaking, Guest Lecturing, Consulting, & Training

Facilitator: Kansas State University Water Institute CoSearch. Invited by Dr. Susan Metzger, Director of Strategic Interdisciplinary Program Development, to plan and facilitate an interdisciplinary research competition and incubator session to develop news ideas related to water and agriculture research. Manhattan, KS October 2024 & April 2026.

Keynote Speaker: Wisconsin Interdisciplinary Research Symposium (WIRS) University of Concordia Wisconsin. Invited by Dr. Terry Reid, Conference Organizer, to present "Interdisciplinary Research has Never Mattered More" to 75 professors from multiple institutions across Wisconsin. Milwaukee, WI June 2025.

Guest Lecturer: Invited by social studies teacher Peggy Pyle to teach her high school students how to successfully manage the post-high school transition. Indian Creek High School, Wintersville, OH May 2025.

Moderator: *Moses: 13 Steps* documentary screening Boulder International Film Festival. Invited by Edwin Moses, Olympian, activist, and film creator, to lead a post-film interview and a Q & A session with over 500 audience members. Boulder, CO April 2025.

Panelist: Invited by the Graduate Student Committee and Activism and Social Justice Division to speak on an online panel titled, "Beyond the Academy." Spoke to graduate students from around the country about non-academic career opportunities with a Ph.D. in communication. April, 2025.

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Dr. Angela Hosek at Ohio University to teach her Family Communication students about managing familial relationships from a far and as a son. Athens, OH April 2025.

Trainer: Lupa Recruiting. Invited by Joseph Burns, CEO, to develop and deliver a six-week training related to developing the communication skills for Latin American tech professionals who are seeking remote work for American and European companies. Mexico City, Mexico October 2024-November 2024.

Podcast Guest: Invited by Blair Lee, creator and host of *Fulfilled: Your Inside Glimpse into Higher Ed*, to talk about the future of higher education and how professors can be and should also be practitioners. September 2024. https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/episode-06-the-academic-and-practitioner-in/id1696300224?i=1000668569371

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Dr. Anthony Lastrape at Texas Tech University to teach students about the value of a communication degree and how to talk about its value with industry professionals. Presented advice on how to be "career ready." Lubbock, TX April 2024.

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Dr. Rahul Mitra at Wayne State University to teach students about the value of a communication degree and how to talk about its value with industry professionals. Presented advice on how to be "career ready." Detroit, MI October 2023.

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Dr. Rebekah Fox at Texas State University to teach students about organizational identity and sense making in changing environments. Presented about my experience working at the Olympic Games with NBC's Today Show and directing TEDx programs. San Marcos, TX September 2023.

Trainer: Division of Student Success, Texas State University. Invited by Jennifer Wood, Assistant Director of Parent and Family Relations, and Ray Rogers, Director of Career Services, to present a professional develop workshop titled, "Public Speaking Best Practices" to 30 division staff members. San Marcos, TX March 2023

Guest Speaker: Ohio University Society of Professional Journalists. Invited by organization's vice president to present "What's it Take to Cover an Olympic Games" to entire organization. Athens, OH January 2023.

Guest Speaker: Texas State University Phi Alpha Delta. Invited by organization's leadership board to present, "Public Speaking Best Practices" to entire pre-law fraternity. San Marcos, TX November 2022.

Guest Speaker: Texas State University Career Services. Invited by Assistant Director of Career Education, Ross Wood, to present, "Best Practices for Engaged Public Speaking" to Career Services staff. San Marcos, TX September 2022.

Keynote Speaker: Fall 2022 Texas State University Bobcat Welcome. Invited by Dr. Kambra Bolch and Dr. Victoria Black to present "What's Next? Transition from High School to College" to 1000 first year students. San Marcos, TX August 2022

Facilitator: Texas State University Campus Recreation. Invited by Dr. Jennifer Beck to present, "Change is Hard: Constructing a New Path Forward," to entire Campus Recreation staff. San Marcos, TX April 2022.

Keynote Speaker: Fall 2021 Ohio University COMS Bobcat to Bobcat Series. Invited by Dr. Lynn Harter to present, "Backstage at the Olympics: It's All About Communication," to current undergraduate and graduate communication studies students and alumni. Athens, OH September 2021 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_KgkB7uj438

Facilitator: Summer 2021 Stelos Scholar Summer Program. Invited by Dr. Peter Tschirhart and Claudia Roeschmann to lead undergraduate students through an information gathering and problem-solving workshop. San Marcos, TX, July 2021

Trainer: Developed a virtual supportive communication training focused on improving the culture of health at Texas State University for the Human Resources' Organizational Development & Communication team. San Marcos, TX January, March, April, and June 2021

Panelist: The Southern Association of Colleges and Employers meeting. Invited by Daphne Wolfe, Career Advisor at Texas State University, to speak on a panel titled, "Own it! Encouraging Ownership in the Career Development Process." Virtual event, May 2021

Panelist: Ohio University Alumni Association Bobcat to Bobcat virtual panel. Invited Dr. Lynn Harter, professor of communication studies, to speak on a panel titled, "Culturally Relevant Leadership for Inclusive Environments." Athens, OH March 2021

Keynote Speaker: 2020 Ashford University Teaching & Learning Virtual Conference. Invited by Dr. Teresa Kuruc, Director of Faculty Support and Development, to speak about integrating career readiness into curriculum. San Diego, CA November 2020 https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ashford-university-to-host-sixth-annual-teaching--learning-conference-november-3-5-2020-301144501.html

Keynote Speaker: 2020 Southwest Affiliate of College & University Residence Halls Conference. Invited by Texas State University's Department of Housing and Residential Life to speak about

relational leadership in a Zoom world to over 125 students from five states and Mexico. San Marcos, TX October 2020

Consultant: Virtually assisted Lasell University in creating a university-wide career readiness program that focuses on NACE competencies. Newton, MA August 2020

Keynote Speaker: 2020 Big 12 & Friends Conference for University Parent Relations Professionals. Invited by Jennifer Wood, Assistant Director of Parent and Family Relations, to speak about research related to identity gaps parents experience when their child leaves home for college. San Marcos, TX March 2020

Presenter: Student Affairs in Higher Education Graduate Program Lunch Presentation on Effective Presentations. San Marcos, TX March 2020

Trainer: Developed material and training Texas State University Resident Directors and Assistant Directors on building a culture of health at work. San Marcos, TX January 2020

Facilitator: Connected Infrastructure for Education, Demonstration, and Applied Research (CIEDAR) Powered by CoSearch. Invited by STAR Park and the College of Science and Engineering to plan and facilitate an interdisciplinary research and entrepreneurial brainstorming session for new projects and companies in the CIEDAR areas. San Marcos, TX November 2019

Facilitator: CoSearch NDSU. Invited by the College of Business to plan and facilitate an interdisciplinary research startup competition focusing on “The Farm of the Future.” Fargo, ND October 2019

Keynote Speaker: 2019 The Ohio State University Academic Leadership Forum. Invited by Dr. Morley Stone, Senior Vice President of Research, to speak about best practices in engaging faculty in interdisciplinary research. Columbus, OH September 2019

Trainer: Developed material and trained Texas State University Resident Assistants on building supportive work relationships. San Marcos, TX August 2019

Keynote Speaker: 2019 The North Dakota Ecosystems Conference. Invited by Scott Meyer, Director of Entrepreneurship at North Dakota State University, to speak about best practices in engaging faculty in entrepreneurial thinking. Fargo, ND July 2019

Alumni Keynote Speaker: 2019 Indian Creek High School Gold Key Scholar Banquet. Invited by the Indian Creek School District Board of Education to speak about success after high school and the value of growing up in a small town. Wintersville, OH May 2019

Presenter: Invited by the Student Affairs Educational Staff Development Team to speak about using supportive communication to build a healthy work environment. San Marcos, TX April 2019

Facilitator: Materials with Intelligence Powered by CoSearch. Invited by the College of Science and Engineering to plan and facilitate an interdisciplinary research startup competition focusing on “Materials with Intelligence.” San Marcos, TX March 2019

Presenter: Invited by the Texas State University Leadership Institute planning committee to speak about the Art of Listening. San Marcos, TX February 2019
Communication Consultant: Consult with Code 4 Emergency Services’ CEO and COO on various organizational and logistical projects. Austin, TX, January 2019-August 2023

Keynote Speaker: 2018 Terry Scholar Banquet. Invited by the Texas State University Terry Scholars, to speak to the organization about gaging success in college. San Marcos, TX October 2018

Keynote Speaker: 2017 and 2018 Texas State University Counselor Update. Invited by Scott Hamm, Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions, to speak to Dallas, Fort Worth, and Austin area High School Guidance Counselors and Community College Advisors about Texas State and the San Marcos Community. Dallas, Fort Worth, and Austin, TX September 2017 and 2018

Presenter: SXSW Innovation Lab. Invited by the SXSW Innovation Lab Committee to speak about CoSearch and the importance of bridging the ivory towers and communities through research-based problem solving. Austin, TX March 2018

Keynote Speaker: 2017 Student Academic Support Conference. Invited by Lindley Workman Alyea, Assistant Director of Student Learning Assistance Center, to speak to student academic support staff about the value of their role in the learning process. San Marcos, TX September 2017

Keynote Speaker: 2017 Leadership San Marcos. Invited by Leadership San Marcos to speak to the Community and Business Leadership Class of 2018 about relational leadership and community impact. San Marcos, TX September 2017

TEDx Speaker: TEDxFargo. Invited by TEDx curators to present TED talk to 2,000 people about moving academic research out of academy and into the community to solve problems through CoSearch. Talk titled: Promoting Interdisciplinary Research with Community Impact
Fargo, ND July 2017 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NjjN3FAa7A&t=5s

Logistics Consultant: Drone Focus Conference. Invited by Greg Tehven, Executive Director and Cofounder of Emerging Prairie, to assist with logistics for international conference featuring leaders in the autonomous vehicle industry. Fargo, ND May 2017 and May 2018

Master of Ceremony: TEDxTexasStateUniversity. Invited by TEDx committee to serve as master of ceremony for the first TEDx event at Texas State University. Successfully engaged audience and kept event on schedule. San Marcos, TX November 2016

Keynote Speaker: 2016 Texas State University Academic Advising Conference. Invited by the Academic Advising Training and Development Team to speak to 100 Texas State University academic advisors from all colleges about ways to enhance the student-advisor relationship and connect with students. San Marcos, TX September 2016

Presenter: Invited by the Student Learning Assistant Center to speak to 60 students at Texas State University's Student Academic Support Teams Conference on power and influence in the instructional setting. San Marcos, TX August 2016

Presenter: Invited by Dr. Timothy Alvarez, Vice President of Student Affairs, to speak with the VPSA Council about my experience at North Dakota State University and how it has influenced my life and career since graduating. Fargo, ND May 2016

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Dr. Katie Warber and the Wittenberg University's First Year Programs Committee to speak about my research with Dr. Tricia Burke about student stress during the transition to college. Presented to the entire freshmen class about how to better manage their stress through healthy interpersonal communication with family and friends. Also spoke in a senior level Family Communication course. Springfield, OH March 2016

Presenter: Invited by the Texas State University Athletic Department to be opening presenter at the J. Ryan Whittington Leadership Academy. San Marcos, TX August 2014-August 2023

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Reba Oguntokun to speak to her Student Affairs in Higher Education class at Texas State University about using power and influence as a student leader. Spoke to 30 student leaders and discussed how to properly use power to positively influence peers. San Marcos, Texas October 2015

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Texas State University's Bobcat Preview Orientation to present five lectures to 2,500 students to assist in teaching them proper note-taking skills. San Marcos, TX August 2015-2019

Presenter: Invited by the Texas State University Leadership Institute planning committee to speak about the Power of Language in Leadership. San Marcos, TX February 2015

Trainer: Train and coach SBTI Six Sigma master blackbelt trainees on presentation, leadership, and teaching skills. San Marcos, TX, October 2014-present

Trainer: Developed material and trained Texas State University Senior Resident Assistants on Creating and Maintaining a Culture of Openness and Feedback. San Marcos, TX January 2015

Trainer: Developed material and trained Texas State University Resident Assistants on Giving and Receiving Feedback to Supervisors. San Marcos, TX November 2014 and August 2015

Trainer: Invited by Athletic Department to develop material and train Texas State University Athletes on Communication in the Classroom and being proactive students. San Marcos, TX September 2014-August 2023

Presenter: Invited by Department of Residence Life to speak on Panel about Difficult Conversations with Students and Connecting with Students. San Marcos, TX August 2014

Presenter: Invited by the Department of Residence Life to speak to Resident Assistants on "Life After College: What Corporate America Wants." San Marcos, TX November 2013, March 2016

Trainer: Developed material and trained Texas State University's Student Organization Presidents on effectively communicating with their organizational members. San Marcos, TX August 2013

Trainer: Developed material and trained Texas State University Resident Assistants on building a positive perception through leadership. San Marcos, TX July 2013

Trainer: Developed material and trained Texas State University Hall Directors on strategies for giving and receiving feedback. San Marcos, TX, July 2013

Guest Lecturer: Invited by Dr. Edward Downes to lecture during his Principles and Practices of Public Relations course at Boston University. Spoke to over 100 students about "Real World" PR in the entertainment and news industries through my experiences at the Olympic Games with NBC's Today Show. Boston, MA, March 2013

Keynote Speaker: The North Dakota Student Leadership Forum hosted by former Governor Edward Schafer. Spoke to 100 North Dakota college students from various universities about the dynamics of friendships while leading. Casselton, ND, January 2013

Trainer: Developed material and trained North Dakota State University Resident Assistants on the power or perception and first impressions. Fargo, ND, August 2011

Trainer: Developed material and trained Davis & Elkin College Admissions Office Staff on recruiting students with personal stories and improving interoffice communication. Elkins, WV, August 2011

Trainer: Developed material and trained Fargo Public Library staff on improving customer interactions and work place relationships. Fargo, ND, October 2008, October 2009

Service

Department/College

TEDxCU Faculty Director: Department of Communication and College of Communication, Media, Design and Information, University of Colorado Boulder, August 2023-present

COMM 1600, Group Interaction, Course Director, Department of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, January 2024-present

CMDI Admitted Students Day presenter: Department of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, February-April 2026

CMDI Admitted Student Welcome Video: College of Communication, Media, Design, and Information, University of Colorado Boulder, September 2025.

Organizational Communication Search Committee Member: Department of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, August 2024-January 2025

Undergraduate Curriculum Changes Working Group Member: Department of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, August 2024-August 2025

Undergraduate Committee Member: Department of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, August 2023-August 2024

Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee Member: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, January 2020-August 2023

College Alternate Representative on the General Education Council: Texas State University, August 2019-August 2023

College Presidential Award Committee Member: College of Fine Arts & Communication, Texas State University. February 2021-March 2021

Chair of Honors College 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee: Honors College, Texas State University, June 2017-May 2018

Member of the Scholarship Committee: The Honors College, Texas State University, August 2016- May 2018

Member of the Undergraduate Research Fellowships Committee: The Honors College, Texas State University, August 2016- May 2019

New Student Orientation Advising: The Honors College, Texas State University, April 2017-August 2023

Member of Basic Course Advisory Committee: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2017-August 2023

Member of the Student Development Specialist Search Committee: The Honors College, Texas State University, August 2016-December 2016

Co-Curator and License-Holder for TEDx Texas State University: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2015-August 2023

Member of College Promotional Video Committee: College of Fine Arts and Communication, Texas State University, November 2014-May 2020:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xnhqNbxmpJw

CoSearch Co-Founder and Co-Director, College of Fine Arts and Communication, Texas State University, January 2015-August 2023

Member of the C3 Research Center Advisory Council, College of Fine Arts and Communication, Texas State University, January 2016-August 2023

Member of University Teaching and Training Committee: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2015-July 2016

Member of Student Scholarship Committee: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, January 2015-August 2023

Co-Chair of the COMM Week Planning Committee: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2014- May 2017

Bobcat Day Presenter & Recruiter: Department of Communication Studies and The Honors College, Texas State University, August 2014-August 2023

Member of Graduate Admission Committee: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2014-July 2016

Chair of Basic Course Advisory Committee: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2013-July 2016

Chair of TA Selection Committee: Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2013-July 2016

Social Media Director, Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University, August 2013-July 2016

Chair of COMDay Committee: Department of Communication, Lasell University, September 2012-May 2013

Member of Program Review Committee: Department of Communication, Lasell University, September 2012-May 2013

Member of the Assessment Committee: Department of Communication, North Dakota State University, January 2010-May 2012

Graduate School Booth Volunteer: Answered questions from prospective graduate students at the National Communication Association Convention Graduate School Fair, Department of Communication, North Dakota State University, November 2009-2011

Charity Drive Coordinator: coordinated charity drive for local children's home, Department of Communication Studies, Texas State University-San Marcos, December 2006

University

Panelist for the Thriving at CU series for new faculty. “Thriving in Community and Leadership: Faculty Relations & Governance” University of Colorado Boulder, February 13, 2025

Member of WellCats University Committee. Work with committee members to provide specific, structured individual and group wellness activities and programs for faculty and staff. Serve on the research and training working group. Texas State University, January 2018-August 2023

Teaching Theater Improvement Committee Member: working with a university-wide committee to determine how to improve teaching theaters on campus. Texas State University, June 2021-August 2023

Advisor of the Future Teachers Living Learning Community at Texas State University. Serve as mentor to students majoring in education by providing academic and personal support to residents and residence hall staff through one-on-one meetings, lobby office hours, informal meetings, and hall programs. Work towards making students more comfortable talking to and working with faculty while guiding students through the college transition process. August 2019-July 2020

Faculty in Residence Texas State University: live in residence hall to assist with the Honors College and Terry Scholars Living Learning Community programs. Serve as mentor to honors students by providing academic and personal support to residents and residence hall staff through one-on-one meetings, lobby office hours, informal meetings, and hall programs. Work towards making students more comfortable talking to and working with faculty while guiding students through the college transition process. July 2013-May 2019

Mentor for the Houston-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Scholars Program in the STEM fields: College of Science and Engineering, Texas State University, September 2017-May 2020

Member of the Department of Housing and Residential Life CAS SAGS Review Committee, Texas State University, February 2019.

Member of the Quality Enhancement Program Theme Development Committee: Texas State University, January 2017-May 2017

Member of PACE Council: Texas State University, August 2017- August 2023

Member of University General Education Council: Texas State University, August 2013-July 2016

Member of Living Learning Community Task Force: serve as faculty representative on the Provost’s and Department of Residential Life’s task force to examine the growth of Texas State University living learning communities. January 2014-May 2019

Table Host for New Student Orientation Parent Dinner. Participated in eight Parent Dinners for New Student Orientation. Summer, 2015

Co-Advisor Epsilon Nu Tau Entrepreneurship Fraternity: serve as co-advisor to the ENT organization providing feedback on communication, leadership, and organization activities. January 2015- May 2018

Member of the Texas State Male Initiatives Committee: serve as faculty representative for the Division of Student Affairs to aide in the development, mentoring, and retention of male students. February 2014-August 2023

Bobcat Bond Mentor: serve as mentor for undergraduate students who feel they are struggling academically or socially. The program is part of the university's retention efforts. January 2014-August 2023

Lasell University First Year Experience Committee: worked closely with several representatives from the Lasell community to ensure we were meeting the first-year learning outcomes in our First-Year Seminar and 101 courses. September 2012-May 2013

LSAT Proctor: worked with colleagues from several departments to administer the Law School Admission Test to over 100 students per exam date. October 2012-May 2013

Experience Boston Chaperone: chaperoned 50 Lasell University students on a trip to Six Flags with the Student Activities Office. October 2012

NDSU Residence Hall Faculty Mentor: worked closely with resident assistants to mentor first-year male students by providing academic and personal support and assisting with the adjustment from high school to college. August 2009-May 2012

Odyssey of the Mind Coach: founder and coach of North Dakota State University's first Odyssey of the Mind Team. Helped team fundraise and prepare to compete internationally at annual World Finals competition. 2011 and 2012 World Finals silver medalist. March 2010-May 2012

NDSU First Year Experience Committee: worked closely with the Department of Resident Life, Office of Student Life, and faculty members from various departments to develop and improve the first-year experience programs for NDSU students. March 2011-May 2012

Club NDSU Volunteer: "mock"-tail bartender at university's kick off weekend event. Served 1400 students and educated them on high-risk drinking. August 2010

Graduate School Panel Participant: participated in panel about balancing graduate school and teaching for the Graduate College of North Dakota State University's new student orientation. January 2010, August 2010

Professional

Article Reviewer: *Communication Quarterly, Communication Studies, Communication Teacher, and Journal of Applied Research in Higher Education.*

Paper Reviewer: Training & Development Division, National Communication Association, April 2023-present

Paper Reviewer: Communication Education Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, April 2015-present

Chair: Communication Theory Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, April 2015-April 2016

Vice Chair: Communication Theory Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, April 2014-April 2015

Served on the National Communication Association's Joint Task Force on the Basic Course, April 2014-November 2014

Central States Communication Association's Cooper Award Committee: Reviewed applicant packets for outstanding graduate student teacher awards at the MA and Ph.D. levels, February 2014

Panel Chair: Applied Communication Division, National Communication Association, November 2013

Secretary: Communication Theory Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, March 2013-April 2014

Paper Reviewer: Basic Course Division, National Communication Association, April 2013-present

Paper Reviewer: Communication Theory Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, October 2012-April 2018

Paper Reviewer: Applied Communication Division, National Communication Association, April 2012-present

Paper Reviewer: Basic Course Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, October 2011-present

Panel Chair: Organizational Communication Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, April 2010

Forensics Judge: Valley Invitational Forensics Tournament, Concordia College, December 2008-March 2010

Paper Reviewer: Organizational Communication Interest Group, Central States Communication Association, October 2009

Convention Volunteer: National Communication Association, November 2006

Community

Ohio University Communication Studies Alumni Advisory Council: advise the School of Communication Studies at Ohio University on strategic planning, curriculum changes, fundraising, and student career preparation. August 2021-present

Ohio University Communication Studies Leadership Program Mentor: mentor School of Communication Studies' undergraduate students on career readiness and student life topics. October 2023-present

Ohio University Volunteer Association Network: volunteer to write and send postcards to prospective Ohio University students and speak at recruitment events. 2008-present

Odyssey of the Mind Judge: volunteer as judge at state tournaments and the World Finals Competition. 2007-2013

Professional Organizations

National Communication Association, 2006-present
Central States Communication Association, 2007-2024
Association for Business Communication, 2023-2024
Texas State University Friends of Fine Arts, 2013-2023
International Communication Association, 2015- 2020
National Collegiate Honors Council, 2017-2020
Southern State Communication Association, 2016-2017
Western States Communication Association, 2010-2011, 2023-2024
Eastern States Communication Association, 2008-2009