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Author Biographies

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Author Biographies

Marlina M. Davidson (M.A., University of Nebraska, Omaha, 2005) is a lecturer in the School of Communication and Speech Center Consulting Coordinator for the University of Nebraska at Omaha. In the UNO Speech Center she consults with faculty, staff and students on presentation skills and instructional communication techniques. She teaches public speaking, interviewing and the Speech Capstone classes. She is currently finishing her Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Her research interests include organizational communication, basic course, and training and development.

Karen Kangas Dwyer (Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 1995) is the Robert T. Reilly Diamond Professor and Assistant Director of the School of Communication at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). She has published textbooks, instructor's manuals, and several articles related to teaching public speaking, public speaking anxiety, instructional communication, and connected classroom climate. She has received the UNO and Nebraska state-wide teaching awards and has served on four editorial boards for communication journals. Her work has included developing the UNO Speech Center, teaching special public speaking classes and workshops for highly apprehensive communicators, as well as developing a graduate program in human resources and training. In addition, she is the author of

the book *Conquer Your Speech Anxiety* and the co-author of the Dutch public speaking book *Vanzelfsprekend*. The UNO Basic Course Program that she has directed for 16 years received the National Communication Association Basic Course Division Program of Excellence Award for 2010.

Brandi N. Frisby (Ph.D., West Virginia University, 2010) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Kentucky. She has published over 15 journal articles focused on interpersonal and instructional communication. She reviews for over 10 journals and serves in leadership positions for both the National Communication Association and the International Communication Association.

Jennifer Heisler (Ph.D., Michigan State University, 2001) is an Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of Communication and Journalism at Oakland University. Heisler is the Faculty Advisor of Iota Eta, the Communication Honor Society. Heisler teaches Communication Theory and various Interpersonal and Family Communication courses. Heisler is an active researcher focusing on interpersonal issues within the family. Her current work examines the socialization of gender through parent-child communication. Her publications can be found in *Journal of Family Communication*, *Journal of Computer Mediated Communication*, *Communication Quarterly*, *Communication Teacher*, and *Communication Education*.

Flaviu A. Hodis (Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, Carbondale) is a senior lecturer in the School of Educa-

tional Psychology and Pedagogy, Faculty of Education, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

Georgeta M. Hodis (Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, Carbondale) is a research and development officer in the Jessie Hetherington Centre for Educational Research, Faculty of Education, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

Emily Holler (M.A., Eastern Illinois University) is Public Speaking Coordinator and Assistant Professor of Communication and Public Speaking Coordinator at Kennesaw State University. In addition to teaching multiple sections of Public Speaking each semester, she also teaches Human Communication, Interviewing, and Health Communication.

Adam C. Jones (Ph.D., University of Nebraska – Lincoln, 2007) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies at Illinois College. **Paul Schrod**t (Ph.D., University of Nebraska – Lincoln, 2003) is the Philip J. and Cheryl C. Burguières Professor, Graduate Director, and Associate Professor of Communication Studies at Texas Christian University. A previous version of this paper was presented at the 2010 Central States Communication Association's annual convention in Cincinnati, OH.

Katherine N. Kinnick, Ph.D., is director of Pre-College Programs and Professor of Communication at Kennesaw State University. She has taught the Public Speaking course since 1993. In 2010, she was selected as the recipient of KSU's highest faculty award, the Dis-

tinguished Professor Award. She was named KSU's Distinguished Teaching Award winner in 2003. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia. Previously, she had a ten-year career in agency and nonprofit public relations.

Kristen Lynn Majocha (Ph.D.,) is an Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and has taught the basic public speaking course for seven years and served as Graduate Student Director of the Public Speaking course while at Duquesne University. Recent publications include "Diversity and Social Justice: Transforming the Public Speaking Course Syllabus," *Pennsylvania Communication Annual* (volume 66, 2010), and "(Dis)Covered Bridges: Public Articulation and the College Classroom" (second author) accepted for publication in *Intertexts*.

Audra L. McMullen (Ph.D., Ohio University, 2000) is an Associate Professor and Communication Studies Coordinator in the Department of Mass Communication and Communication Studies at Towson University. She also works with TU's nationally ranked speech and debate program. McMullen is author/co-author of over 15 articles focusing primarily on instructional communication and communicating with people with physical disabilities.

Michelle Moreau is Coordinator of the Communication Center and Instructor in the School of Communication Studies. Her research interests are speech pedagogy, communication centers and PowerPoint. Michelle received a BA and MA in Speech Communication from the

University of Alabama. Michelle taught communication at the University of South Alabama for seven years and served as Basic Course Director, training graduate students to teach public speaking.

C. Leigh Nelson is an Associate Professor of Communication Studies at James Madison University. She received her doctorate from Purdue University and her Masters from Washington State University. Her research is focused on the intersection between mass media and interpersonal communication. More recently her scholarship has focused on alcohol use across various communication contexts. She has also conducted research in communication anxiety, help-seeking, and the impacts of communication center usage.

Robert J. Sidelinger (Ed.D., West Virginia University, 2008) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism at Oakland University. He has published over 15 journal articles focused on interpersonal and instructional communication. His publications can be found in *Communication Education*, *Basic Communication Course Annual*, *Communication Studies*, *Communication Quarterly*, and *Communication Research Reports*. His instructional communication research primarily focuses on student-to-student connect- edness in the college classroom.

Toni S. Whitfield, is an Associate Professor in Communication Studies at James Madison University. She holds a Doctorate in Education and a Masters degree in Communication from the University of West Florida. Dr. Whitfield has conducted research in the areas of

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communication anxiety, help-seeking, and the impacts of communication center usage. She has also conducted research on pedagogical issues such as: service learning and preparation of graduate students in higher education.