



DEPARTMENT *of* COMMUNICATION
and PERFORMANCE

College of Arts & Sciences

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Spotlight on Scholarship:
AY 2016-2017 Report**

Prepared by

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Presented to

Dr. Amber Kinser, Chair

&

The Communication & Performance Faculty



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September 28, 2017

Friends & colleagues—

Below, you'll find some of our numerous AY 2016-2017 scholarly and creative accomplishments in the Department of Communication & Performance.

On & Off Campus

Throughout this report, you'll quickly notice all the work being doing with (and within) communities.

In our department community, Adriane Flanary engaged in applied research to help students reach their graduation goals. That's why she earned the 2017 Chair's Award for Exceptional Service. Read more about her efforts below.

Laughton Messmer & Erin Blankenship mentored our ETSU debaters to several local and regional victories; additionally, they hosted visiting teams on campus. And Delanna Reed shared her one-woman show *Round Peg in a Square Hole: Lesbian Teachers' Stories of Fitting In* with both the American Folklore Society Annual Meeting and the New Voice Teller for Stone Soup Storytelling Festival.

Awards & honors

As usual, several of our faculty brought home well-deserved recognitions for their scholarly work.

Melissa Nipper won the AY16-17 ETSU Outstanding Thesis in Art and Humanities. Andrew Herrmann received Top Paper conference awards from both the Southern States Communication Association and the National Communication Association.

Partnering & collaborating

When it comes to research, our faculty-scholars maintained a collaborative spirit.

Amber Kinser teamed with members of the Quillen College of Medicine on critical dementia patient-caregiver research. Also, Amber and I (Kelly Dorgan) joined with the National Communication Association to bring the NCA Partnership Program to ETSU; this initiative

fostered a conversation at the regional and national levels about wellness, illness, and health in Southern Central Appalachia.

Wesley Buerkle continued his multi-site collaboration on his grant-funded oral citation study. As you'll read below, he and his co-author Dr. Gerhart are successfully publishing in a variety of scholarly journals.

Advising & mentoring

Once again, you clearly demonstrated your commitment to mentoring our student-scholars and performers.

Consider that for the 2017 *Boland Undergraduate Research Symposium*, we had **13** presenters and performers. On top of that, we were represented aptly by Juliette Guerrault at the *Regional Graduate Liberal Arts Conference* and the *Tennessee Communication Association (Fall 2017)*.

In the end, AY16-17 reflected our continued dedication to scholarly and creative activities.

Gratefully,

Kelly A. Dorgan, Ph.D.
Research Coordinator
Department of Communication & Performance

Thank You, **Lori Ann Manis.**

She proofed and edited critical materials, ensuring that your work is well represented.

Faculty Scholarly Activities (Selected)



Grant activities

Wesley Buerkle

Buerkle, W. (2016). Incorporating oral communication into the curriculum. ETSU Instructional Development Grant.

Melissa Nipper

Nipper, M. (2016). Divergent discourse: A case study analyzing the effects of campus communication about sexual assault. East Tennessee State University School of Graduate Studies and ETSU Graduate Research Council Grant.

Delanna Reed

Reed, D. (2016). Railroad stories: Oral history project about the Clinchfield and East Tennessee & North Carolina Railroads. The National Storytelling Network Grant.

While the above-listed grants were awarded in the previous academic year, **Wesley, Melissa, and Delanna** illustrated the positive impact that funding has on scholarly productivity.

All three faculty members spent AY16-17 taking their grant-funded work into various communities.

For example, Wesley and Melissa both presented research findings at the 2017 Southern States Communication Association, and Melissa was invited to participate in the 2017 ETSU conference *Escape from Rape*.

In spring, Delanna directed a graduate student production of *Ridin' the Rails: Tweetsie & Clinchfield Railroad Stories* at ETSU.

ETSU Funding Opportunities



ETSU Internal Funding

Overview

https://www.etsu.edu/research/orspa/funding_opps/internal.php



ETSU Research Development Committee

Small Research Grants

<https://www.etsu.edu/research/rdc/smallgrant/default.php>

Major Research Grants

<https://www.etsu.edu/research/rdc/major/default.php>

Interdisciplinary Research Grants

<https://www.etsu.edu/research/rdc/interdisciplinary/default.php>



ETSU Instructional Development Committee

General Information

<http://www.etsu.edu/academicaffairs/instructional-grants.php>

Application

<https://www.etsu.edu/senate/facultyhandbook/documents/applicationinstructionaldevgrant.pdf>



ETSU Internationalization Faculty Grant Program

General Information

https://www.etsu.edu/research/orspa/funding_opps/internal.php#Internationalization



ETSU PGIA

General Information

https://www.etsu.edu/research/orspa/funding_opps/internal.php#PGIA

Application Procedures

<http://www.etsu.edu/senate/facultyhandbook/section3.aspx#h>



ETSU Travel Award for Arts & Sciences Faculty

General Information

https://www.etsu.edu/research/orspa/funding_opps/internal.php#TAASF



ETSU Student Opportunities

ETSU Student/Faculty Collaborative Research Grant

https://www.etsu.edu/research/orspa/funding_opps/internal.php#Collaborative

ETSU Sherrod Library Graduate Student Excellence in Research

<http://libraries.etsu.edu/about/jobs/scholarships/gradresearch>

ETSU Research Grant Awards (Graduate)

<http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/researchgrants.php>

ETSU Undergraduate Travel Grants (Undergraduate)

http://www.etsu.edu/honors/ug_research/funding/travel.php

ETSU Appalachian Student Research Forum (Graduate & Undergraduate)

<http://www.etsu.edu/studentresearch/>

ETSU Boland Undergraduate Research Symposium (Oral Presentations & Performances)

http://www.etsu.edu/honors/ug_research/publicize/symposium_form.php

Let's talk about how applied research helps transform our department.

Terrine Brown, collaborating with **Andrew Herrmann**, conducted research to identify trends in Storytelling programs.

Additionally, Terrine researched 157 Communication Studies alumni through social media platforms. She is striving to help us understand what Communication Studies alumni are doing post-graduation.

Faculty Activities ~Selected~

Wesley Buerkle

Publications:

Buerkle, C. W. (In Press). Selling guilt: Using Kenneth Burke to teach critical readings of advertising. *Great Ideas for Teaching Students (G.I.F.T.S.) in Communication*, edited by John S. Seiter, Jennifer Peeples, and Matthew L. Sanders, Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's.

Buerkle, C. W., & Gerhart, C., & Oliveira, C.M. (2017). According to, student motivations...: A Theory of Planned Behavior investigation of students' intention to orally cite sources. *Communication Reports* (2017): 157-169.

Buerkle, C. W., & Gerhart, C. (2017). Students see, students do?: Inducing a peer norm effect for oral source citations. *Communication Research Reports*, 115-123.

Buerkle, C. W., & Gerhart, C. (2016). Answer me these questions three: Using online training to improve students' oral source citations. *Communication Teacher*, 47-61.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17404622.2016.1244351>

Presentations:

Buerkle, C. W. (2017, April). "I didn't see it, but I know what it's about": The motion picture trailer and problematic synecdoche. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern States Communication Association. Greenville, SC.

Buerkle, C. W. (2016, October). Beguiled by a flake(d): The burden and charm of masculine ennui in contemporary television. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Organization for the Study of Communication Language and Gender. Chicago, IL.

Kelly A. Dorgan

Publications:

Dorgan, K. A. (In Press). Taking care. *borrowed solace*. <https://borrowedsolace.com/>

Dorgan, K. A. (2017, August 21). The truth about the surrender of my foster child. *Motherwell Magazine*. <https://motherwellmag.com/2017/08/21/the-truth-about-the-surrender-of-my-foster-child/>

Dorgan, K. A. (2017). Big Mama and the uncertain leap. *Every Pigeon*, 1, 62-68.
<http://everypigeon.com/big-mama-and-the-uncertain-leap/>

Kelly A. Dorgan & Amber Kinser

Presentations:

Baker, K., Dorgan, K. A., Fletcher, R., Hutson, S., & Kinser, A. (2017, April 12). Health, wellness, and illness in Appalachia [Moderated Panel]. Presented for the National Communication Association Partnership Program. East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN. <https://youtu.be/7VQko-nRbOE> & <https://youtu.be/3BjbWR8MsXw>

Let's talk more about how applied research helps transform our department.

Adriane Flanary keeps our students on-track for graduation by conducting exhaustive research into their coursework progress. Systematically, she analyzes advising notes and documents requirements.

Throughout AY16-17, she communicated with advisors, faculty, and staff about her research findings, providing crucial information and supporting the majors and minors we serve.

Undoubtedly, Adriane's research helps students reach their goals.

Andrew Herrmann

Publications:

Herrmann, A. F. (Ed.) (2017). *Organizational autoethnographies: Power and identity in our working lives*. New York, NY: Routledge.

Herrmann, A. F. (2017). The beatings will continue until morale improves. *Cultural Studies-Critical Methodologies*, 17, 347-356.

Herrmann, A. F., & Herbig, A. (Eds.). (2016). *Communication perspectives on popular culture*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Herrmann, A. F. (2016). Power, metaphor, and the closing of a social networking site. *Social Media in Society*, 5, 244-282.

Presentations:

Herbig, A., Watson, A., Herrmann, A. F., Tyma, A., and Joda, J. (2017). The creation of profs do pop!: A critical examination of popular culture communities, Presented at the National Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference, San Diego, CA.

Herrmann, A. F. (2016). Organizational power, patriarchy, and technology. Paper presented at the 102nd National Communication Association Convention, Grand Rapids, MI. [Top Paper, ABC Interest Group.]

A special note of recognition goes to **Laughton Messmer & Erin Blankenship**, Co-Directors of the ETSU Speech and Debate Team.

In AY16-17, the team took home **10** awards, including multiple 1st and 2nd place wins.

Additionally, *The Great Weed Debate* proved once again to be popular. The Spring 2017 event reached students, faculty, and staff in the ETSU community and generated media attention.

Informed by research, the campus debate underscored the importance of translating scientific and social scientific data to broader communities.

Melissa Nipper

Presentations:

Nipper, M. (2017, April). Divergent discourse: A case study analyzing the effects of campus communication about sexual assault. Paper presented at the 87th Southern States Communication Association, Greenville, SC.

Nipper, M. (2017, April). Popular culture and the progress of modern day pilgrimages. Paper presented at the 87th Southern States Communication Association, Greenville, SC.

Nipper, M. (2016, November 3). Divergent discourse: A case study analyzing the effects of campus communication about sexual assault. ETSU Partners in Excellence Dinner. Johnson City TN.

Amber E. Kinser

Publications:

Hamdy, R.C., Lewis, J.V., Kinser, A. E., Depelteau, A., Copeland, R. Kendall-Wilson, T., & Whalen, K. (2017). Too many choices confuse patients with dementia: Managing aberrant behavior in patients with dementia—Case 1. *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine*, January-December, 1-7. DOI: 10.1177/2333721417720585

Kinser, A. E. (2017). Fixing food to fix families: Feeding risk discourse and the family meal. *Women's Studies in Communication* 40(1), 29-47. doi.org/10.1080/07491409.2016.1207001

Delanna Reed

Performances:

Reed, D. (2017, April 29). [Featured storyteller]; Cumberland Mountain Storytelling Festival; Crossville, TN , Historic Rugby, TN.

Reed, D. (2017, April 21-22). Round peg in a square hole: Lesbian teachers' stories of fitting in [Director & Performer]. New Voice Teller for Stone Soup Storytelling Festival, Woodruff, SC.

Reed, D. (2017, April 7). Ridin' the rails: Tweetsie & Clinchfield Railroad stories [Director]; East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN.

Reed, D. (2016, October 29). Ghost stories [Performer]; Ghostly Gathering, Historic Rugby, TN.

Reed, D. (2016, October 19-22). Round peg in a square hole: Lesbian teachers' stories of fitting in [Director & Performer]. American Folklore Society Annual Meeting, Miami, FL.