



DEPARTMENT *of* COMMUNICATION
and PERFORMANCE

College of Arts & Sciences

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Spotlight on Scholarship:
AY 2013-2014 Report**

Prepared by

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Presented to

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&

The Communication Faculty
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Welcome back, friends & colleagues!

As you review this report, you'll quickly recognize that our reconfiguration into the Department of Communication & Performance and Department of Mass Communication has not affected our productivity as scholars.

Given that we were under the umbrella of the Department of Communication (DOC) in AY 2013-2014, this final DOC report highlights our combined efforts.

Co-editing, co-authoring & collaborating!

Especially impressive are your collaborations that are yielding exciting results. As you know, Joseph Sobel is the co-editor of *Storytelling, Self, Society: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Storytelling Studies*. In a forthcoming issue, guest-edited by Andrew Herrmann, contributing authors help readers make sense of the contributions and impact of two pioneering ethnographers, Bud Goodall and Nick Trujillo.

Also, let's recall the good news we received in March, 2014. That's when Stephen Marshall, Andrew Dunn, and Mariam Ayad, former PCOM student, earned the top faculty paper award (Newspaper and Online Division) at the 39th Annual AEJMC Southeast Colloquium. Then, there's Amber Kinser. Between co-editing a new collection of essays **and** analyzing data from her ETSU Research Development Committee (RDC)-funded research project (*Motherhood and Family Meals*), Amber has co-authored with me two major research publications about women cancer survivors in Southern Central Appalachia--These two peer-reviewed articles are the culmination of a 7-year research project, and, more importantly, a recognition of the complex lives of women survivors in our region.

Processing the "process" & "product"

We're producing great work, autonomously and collaboratively! But there's more to being a scholar than producing a "product." What **we all do** involves an exacting process, requiring patience and fortitude. Karen Brewster and Melissa Shafer are still plugging away with their follow-up to *Fundamental of Theatrical Design*, growing the book bit by bit. Wesley Buerkle, a published rhetorician, has undertaken a multiphasic, multi-year, and multi-site quantitative research project. Plus, he joined the editorial board of *The Southern Communication Journal* and continues heading up the Communication Studies program. More details to follow...

Reaching out, reaching people

While tackling demanding teaching and service loads, Delanna Reed and Bobby Funk each ran multiple workshops at academic conferences, like the Tejas Storytelling Conference and the Southeastern Theatre Conference, respectively. You may also remember that Bobby performed in his one-man play (*Co Aytch: Memoirs of a Confederate Soldier*) in April at Maryville College—This is a play that Bobby adapted from Sam. R. Watkins' book. Delbert Hall released a companion workbook to his *Rigging Math Made Simple* and is currently in talks regarding possible translations of his book, now in its second edition. In the meantime, he's authoring an online newsletter, *The Flywire*. Then in April 2014, Delbert and Pat Cronin were featured at the Charles C. Sherrod Library's "Table of Content," an event that unites ETSU faculty and staff with interested community members for a night of dinner and conversation about the featured participants' research interests. From workshops to newsletters to special presentations and demonstrations: Your projects and activities signal commitment to **sharing** your knowledge, experiences, and ideas in a variety of ways and to a variety of audiences.

And, here, Shara Lange and Cara Harker come to mind. Over the years, both have contributed significantly to their disciplines, for example, Shara with her award-winning documentary, *Banjo Romantika* and Cara with her achievements as a director, choreographer, writer, and performer. Still, they—like you!—do so much more! Shara mentors young film makers, providing ETSU students with opportunities like *Made in East Tennessee*; and Cara stretches young ETSU performers and choreographers at events like the *Spring Dance Concert* and the *Boland Undergraduate Research Symposium* (a.k.a. *Boland*). Both Shara and Cara serve as scholar-mentors, developing their own projects while investing in future generations.

As Research Coordinator, I have been humbled by the generosity and commitment I have witnessed. For years now, I have observed you at *Boland*, exuberantly supporting our students. I have watched you attend your colleagues' events, enthusiastically applauding one another. But, I've also taken note of the times when I've seen you duck your heads into one another's offices just to check how things are going, to unobtrusively inquire about ongoing projects and continued efforts. The creation of scholarly work requires persistence—and also requires others' support and encouragement, so thank you for the times you've contributed in those ways too.

It's been a pleasure reading, watching, and documenting all that you do for the department, discipline, students, and, of course, your friends and colleagues.

With deep gratitude,

Kelly A. Dorgan, Ph.D.
Research Coordinator
Department of Communication (2010-2014)
Department of Communication & Performance (2014-Present)

Now here's some more about You!...

Thank you, Stephen Marshall for being the featured scholar during the 2014 *Communication Scholarship Showcase*. Stephen joined a group of panelists (David Hurley, RDC Chair & Melissa Schrift, Anthropology) for an interactive discussion about the life cycle of grant writing.

Applause for the ETSU Research Development Committee, particularly David Hurley, and the Department of Communication, including Amber Kinser, for supporting this event! And, as always, thank you Megan Fannon & Daniel Santiago, for your work to provide us a video:
http://www.etsu.edu/streaming/fall2013_communication_scholarship_showcase.html

About 40 attendees from five (5) different colleges and numerous departments came to the 2014 CSS interactive event. For days afterward, I received emails about how much people enjoyed and valued the discussion.

And thank you all for attending the 2014 CSS—Spring Research Mixer on April 7th in The Studio. Shara Lange, Daniel Santiago, Stacy Whitaker, and Tammy Hayes bent over backwards to give this event a home. And Megan Fannon brilliantly designed the invitations and handled videography. Our appreciation to you all!

Over twenty of us gathered to share some great gourmet sandwiches from Fatz Café and decadent cupcakes from PolkA Dots, a local bakery (both brought to you by an anonymous benefactor). Over a plate (or plates!) of fantastic, flavorful food, we heard about the challenging and substantive work being done by our faculty.

Thank you, Ellen Young & Lori Ann Manis for all your behind-the-scenes work. Ellen, as department webmaster, regularly updated information about faculty scholarship [<http://www.etsu.edu/cas/comm/activities/research.aspx>]

Lori Ann proofed and edited a number of critical materials, including formal reports, thereby helping ensure that your work is well represented.

~ Faculty Scholarly Activities~ (Selected)



N.I.A

Stephen Marshall had his non-instructional assignment (NIA) in Spring 2014. Cara Harker is on NIA in Spring 2015. If you're interested in learning more about NIA opportunities, check out this link:

<http://www.etsu.edu/senate/facultyhandbook/forms.aspx>



Grant activities

On February 14, 2014, Pat Cronin & Bobby Funk were notified by the TBR Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs that their proposal to revitalize THEA 1030 (*Introduction to Theatre*) was selected for one of the TBR's Revitalization Grant.

This is an award of \$9000 . Well done, Pat & Bobby!

Wesley Buerkle (PI) & Carrie Oliveira (Co-I)

Buerkle, W. & Oliveira, C. (2013-2014). *Strategies to Reduce Inadvertent Student Plagiarism*. \$5000 grant awarded by the ETSU Instructional Development Committee.

Andrew Dunn (PI) & Andrew Herrmann (Co-I)

Dunn, A., & Herrmann, A. (2013-2014). *Fandom, Cosplay and Social Identity in Geekdom*. \$750 grant awarded by the ETSU Research Development Committee, Small Grant.

Shara Lange

Lange, S. (2014). *Work sticks: Patrick Dougherty in Johnson City, TN, A Documentary Film*. \$1500 grant awarded by the ETSU Research Development Committee, Small Grant.

Lange, S. (2014). *Banjo Romantika*. \$10,000 grant awarded by the ETSU Research Development Committee, Major Grant.

Stephen Marshall (P-I)

Marshall, S.W. (2013). *Interdisciplinary Collaboration to Market Mental Health Services*. \$1500 grant awarded by the ETSU Research Development Committee, Small Grant.

ETSU RDC Chair, David Hurley, graciously provided us with a “sneak-peak” of grant-related information...

1) RDC website. Check the website! New instructions, forms and templates will be posted for the online submission system.

<http://www.etsu.edu/research/rdc/default.aspx>

As you have likely heard, competition for these small grants has become fierce. As stressed by featured participants at the Fall 2014 CSS event, applicants should ask previous award-recipients to serve as informal reviewers **before submitting**.

2) First round deadlines. Apply by September 15, 2014, the first application deadline.

There will be up to ten (10) grants awarded. Due to budget cuts, the maximum award amount is \$1470, down about \$30 from last year. RDC is holding back the remainder of funds for the second round of awards (see #3 below). That way, if you come up with a great idea mid-semester, you still have an opportunity to secure necessary funding.

3) Second/Final round deadlines. Apply by December 15, 2014, the second and final application deadline.

There is no guarantee that an additional ten (10) applications will be funded. RDC will fund qualified applications until the remaining funds are depleted. Some advice--Get your proposal reviewed quickly. Ask questions. Submit early!

Just know that RDC Grant funding will be determined numerically. Reviewers will score the applications from 1 (Excellent); 2 (Good); 3 (Satisfactory), and so on...

Here's that list of ETSU funding opportunities (*Note: Information is subject to change, such as funding amounts. Check official, updated websites*).

<http://www.etsu.edu/cas/comm/activities/Funding%20Sources%20Fall%202013.jpg>

~ Faculty Scholarly Activities~ (Selected)



Selected academic publications, presentations & performances

Dan Brown

Brown, D. (2014). A history of communication technology. In A. E. Grant & J. H. Meadows (Eds.), *Communication technology update and fundamentals* (14th ed.) (pp. 9-20). Burlington, MA: Focal Press.

Wesley Buerkle

Buerkle, C. W. (In Press). [Review of the book *Love and Money: Queers, Class, and Cultural Production*, by Lisa Henderson]. *Southern Communication Journal*.

Kelly A. Dorgan

Dorgan, K.A. (Forthcoming). Controlling my voice: Producing and performing a special-mothering narrative. In A. Kinser, K. Freehling-Burton, T. Hawkes (Eds.). *Performing Motherhood*. Toronto, ON: Demeter Press.

Dorgan, K.A., Duvall, K.L., & Hutson, S.P. (Forthcoming). At the intersection of cancer survivorship, gender, family, and place in Southern Central Appalachia—A Case Study. In M. Tedesco (Ed.). *Mountain Women*. Athens, OH: The Ohio University Press.

Kelly A. Dorgan & Amber E. Kinser

Dorgan, K.A., Duvall, K.L., Hutson, S.P., & Kinser, A.E. (2013). Mothered, mothering & motherizing in illness narratives: What women cancer survivors in Southern Central Appalachia reveal about mothering-disruption. *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, 19(1&2), 59-81.

Dorgan, K.A., Duvall, K.L., Hutson, S.P., Kinser, A.E., & Hall, J.M. (In press). Connecting place to disease and gender: Cohabiting morbidities in narratives of women cancer survivors in Southern Central Appalachia. *Women's Studies in Communication*.

Andrew Dunn

Okdie, B. M., Ewoldsen, D. R., Muscanell, N. L., Guadagno, R. E., Eno, C. A., Velez, J., Dunn, R. A., O'Mally, J., & Reichart Smith, L. (2014). Missed programs (There is no TiVo for this one): Why psychologists should study the media. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.

Andrew Dunn & Stephen Marshall

Barber, R.E., Dunn, R. A., & Marshall, S. W. (2013, Fall). Alternative vs. traditional news: A content analysis of news coverage of the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11. *American Communication Journal*, 15(4).

Delbert Hall

Hall, D. (2014). *Rigging math made simple*. Spring Knoll Press; 2nd Ed.
http://www.amazon.com/Rigging-Math-Simple-Second-Edition/dp/0615944833/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1389613290&sr=8-2&keywords=rigging+math+made+simple

Hall, D. L., & Sickels, B. (2014). *The Rigging math made simple workbook*. Johnson City, TN: Spring Knoll Press.

Cara Harker

Harker, C. (2014). [Writer, Director, Choreographer, Performer]. *Bebe*. Cincinnati Fringe Festival: Know Theatre, Cincinnati, OH.

Harker, C. (2014). [Director, Choreographer]. *Dance Concert 2014*. Bud Frank Theatre, Johnson, City, TN.

Harker, C. (2014). [Choreographer]. *Everything We Got*. Bud Frank Theatre, Johnson, City, TN.

Harker, C. (2014). [Choreographer]. *Dawn Chorus*. Bud Frank Theatre, Johnson, City, TN.

Harker, C. (2013). [Director, Choreographer]. *Dance Showcase 2013*. East Tennessee State University, Johnson, City, TN.

Andrew Herrmann

Herbig, A., Herrmann, A. F., & Tyma, A. W. (Forthcoming, November, 2014). (Eds). *Beyond New Media: Discourse and Critique in a Polymediated Age*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Herrmann, A. F., & DiFate, K. (2014). (Eds). The new ethnography: Goodall, Trujillo, and the necessity of storytelling. *Storytelling, Self, Society: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Storytelling Studies*, 10. (Special Issue.).

Herrmann, A. F. (2014). Ghosts, vampires, zombies and us: The undead as autoethnographic bridges. *International Review of Qualitative Research*, 7, 327–341.

Herrmann, A. F. (2014). The ghostwriter: Living a Father's unfinished narrative. In T. Adams & J. Wyatt (Eds.), *On (writing) families: Autoethnographies of presence and absence, love and loss* (pp. 95-102.) Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.

Herrmann, A. F. (2013). Daniel Amos and me: The power of pop culture and autoethnography. *Popular Culture Studies Journal*, 1, 6-17.

Amber Kinser

Kinser, A. E., Freehling-Burton, K., & Hawkes, T. (Forthcoming; anticipated 2014). (Eds). *Performing motherhood*. Toronto: Demeter.

Kinser, A.E. (2013). At the core of the work/life balance myth: Motherhood and family dinners. In Andrea O'Reilly (Ed.) *What Do Mothers Need?: Motherhood Activists and Scholars Speak Out on Maternal Empowerment for the 21st Century*. Toronto: Demeter.

Shara Lange

Lange, S. K. (2014, October) [Director]. *Banjo Romantika: American Bluegrass Music & The Czech Imagination*. Official Selection – IBMA Film Festival. Raleigh, NC.

Lange, S. K. (2014, August) [Director]. *Banjo Romantika: American Bluegrass Music & The Czech Imagination*. Official Selection – UVFA Annual Conference, Bozeman, MT.

Lange, S. K. (2014, April 24-27) [Director]. *Banjo Romantika: American Bluegrass Music & The Czech Imagination*. Screened at the Memphis International Film & Music Festival; Memphis, TN.

Lange, S. K. (2014, April) [Director]. *Banjo Romantika: American Bluegrass Music & The Czech Imagination*. Screened at the Nashville International Film Festival; Nashville, TN.

Lange, S. K. (2013, November 8) [Director]. *Banjo Romantika: American Bluegrass Music & The Czech Imagination*. Screened at the Virginia Film Festival; Charlottesville, VA.; Festival award recipient. <http://music.virginia.edu/banjoromantika-colloq>

Lange, S. K. (2013, September) [Director]. *Banjo Romantika: American Bluegrass Music & The Czech Imagination*. Screened at the Downhome; Johnson City, TN
<http://music.virginia.edu/banjoromantika-colloq>

Herb Parker

Parker, H. (2014, Fall). Let's do color-inclusive, not color blind, casting. *Southern Theatre Magazine*, 4.

Several of you are in the middle of projects. It can be a fruitful time, resulting in exciting and new developments, but it can also be a lonely time. Too often we measure success by the “product,” not the process. Did you get the grant funding? Did you get the publication? When’s the book coming out? So let’s take some time to celebrate those who are in the middle of research/writing/creating...

Andrew Dunn and Andrew Herrmann have been analyzing data from their RDC grant-funded Cosplay study. It seems they’ve been staying up to the wee-hours of the morning writing results and are now submitting to journals for possible publication.

Wesley Buerkle has a new research partner, Dr. Chris Gearhart at Tarleton State University. These two researchers are collaborating on four studies: **Study 1** is based on data collected at ETSU on students’ attitudes about citing sources in speeches. Wesley and Chris are expanding it into a multi-site data collection. **Study 2** is in the final edits and is about examining factors that contribute to students’ decisions of whether or not to cite their sources. **Study 3** is based on Wesley & Carrie’s ETSU IDC-funded study (see above). It’s an experiment to measure the impact of online training modules on students’ actual citation of sources. Wesley and Chris are currently analyzing loads and loads of data. **Study 4** is a second experiment that Wesley and Chris are launching this semester to test an intervention’s impact on speech performance.

Amber Kinser was awarded a Major Grant from the ETSU RDC in AY 2012-2013. Since that time, she has gathered rich qualitative data from six (6) focus groups about *Motherhood and Family Meals*. She has been collaborating with several scholars, including young emerging scholars in our PCOM program, on data analysis. This is ground-breaking work!

Karen Brewster and Melissa Shafer are developing the follow-up book to their 2011 *Fundamentals of Theatrical Design*. After the successful bid for NAST [re]accreditation, Karen and Melissa have been able to return some focus to their book project. They spent part of their summer conducting archival research in New York, NY. If you get a moment, talk to Melissa--She tells great stories about the kind of archival documents she got her hands on, quite literally.

Congratulations to all faculty who are growing their work! Keep in mind: We’re here to help, encourage, and support!