

# David M. Gesler

Associate Professor, Tenured and Promoted, 2009

## Education

2000-2003 University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN

### **Ph.D., Communication.**

- Secondary emphasis in Statistics.
- Dissertation Topic: Ethical communication competence within leadership.

1996-1998 Murray State University Murray, KY

### **M.A., Organizational Communication.**

- Thesis: Picture This: The Effect of Communication on an Imagery Exercise.

1988-1993 University of California, Davis Davis, CA

### **B.A., Rhetoric and Communication.**

- Minor in Organizational Studies.

## Research Interests

Organizational communication, leadership, communication and ethics, statistical methods, communication and sports, communication competence, communication and theology, research methods, health communication, interpersonal communication, grand theory of communication.

## Awards and Recognition

### Academic

2009. Kentucky Communication Association award for excellence in teaching  
2009. Department representative for the Board of Regents Award for Teaching Excellence.  
2008. Department representative for the Board of Regents Award for Teaching Excellence.  
2005. Top paper, Applied division, SSCA.  
2003. Top three paper, Applied division; Bostrom award finalist, SSCA.  
2002. Bostrom award finalist (empirical research paper competition), SSCA.  
2002-2003. Outstanding Graduate teaching associate. University of Tennessee.  
1997-1998. Outstanding Graduate teaching assistant. Murray State University.  
1997. College of Education Research Grant recipient. Murray State University.

### Other

November, 2007. Member of the month, MCCH Wellness Center.  
April, 2006. Member of the month, MCCH Wellness Center.

## Teaching/Academic Experience

2010-present Murray State University Murray, KY

### **Faculty Athletic Representative**

- Responsible for ensuring the academic integrity of MSU's athletics program, the maintenance of the well-being of student-athletes, and the institutional control of the athletics program.

2007-present Murray State University Murray, KY

**Graduate Director** Department of Organizational Communication

- Responsible for overseeing, mentoring, and advising all graduate students (90), on-campus and off-campus, as well as being in charge of all administrative and logistical duties contained within the graduate program.

2009-present Murray State University Murray, KY  
**Associate Professor.** Department of Organizational Communication

- See duties for Assistant Professor below.

2003-2009 Murray State University Murray, KY  
**Assistant Professor.** Department of Organizational Communication

- Teaching/have taught undergraduate research methods (COM 390), organizational communication (COM 385), interpersonal communication (COM 381), public speaking (COM 161). Teaching/have taught graduate research methods (COM 690), research practice (COM 692), readings (COM 693), variables (COM 694), leadership (COM 685), training and development (COM 673), and thesis (COM 698-699).

2000-2003 University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN  
**Graduate Teaching Associate.**

- Taught one research methods class (SCOM 340), and one organizational communication class (SCOM 440). Have also taught two business communication classes per semester (SCOM 240). Sole responsibility for all classes (formulate course structure, lessons, exercises, exams, lectures, and administration of grades).

1998-1999 Murray State University Murray, KY  
**Adjunct Professor.**

- Taught three Organizational Communication classes per semester (COM 161-public speaking, COM 181-interpersonal communication and COM 381-advanced interpersonal communication). Sole responsibility for all three classes.

1996-1998 Murray State University Murray, KY  
**Graduate Teaching Assistant.**

- Taught multiple sections of public speaking (COM 161) and interpersonal communication (COM 181). Responsible for laboratory sections of each class.

1994-1995 Anaheim Union School District Anaheim, CA  
**Substitute Instructor.**

- Taught a variety of subjects (Geometry, Physical education, Spanish, ESL, English, History) for grades 7-12. Responsible for delivery of prepared material.

## Related Experience

1999-2000 Franke USA LaVergne, TN  
**Corporate Trainer.**

- Responsible for all aspects of training and development, including design, instruction, and evaluation of all training programs for over 300 employees.

1996-1999 Paducah Public Library Paducah, KY  
**Interlibrary Loan/ Reference Librarian.**

- Researched, processed and executed all inter-library loans of books and materials. Provided specific-information searches and research for the public.

## Published Articles

- Ausenbaugh, M. W., Gesler, D. M., & Brewer, E. C. (2008). The effects of sex and education level on trust, respect and empowerment in the workplace. *Kentucky Journal of Communication*, 27(1),
- Gesler, D. M. (2007). Research is elementary: How Blue's Clues can help teach communication research methods. *Communication Teacher*, 21(4), 118-122.
- Gesler, D. M. (2007). It's only rock n roll but I like it: How songs can help teach statistics. *Kentucky Journal of Excellence in College Teaching and Learning*, 5, 35-47. Retrived February 16, 2007, from [http://www.kentuckyjournalofexcellence.org/journal\\_2007/Gesler-rocking\\_stats.doc](http://www.kentuckyjournalofexcellence.org/journal_2007/Gesler-rocking_stats.doc)
- Gesler, D. M., & Todd, T. S. (2006). Picture this: The effect of communication on athletic imagery. *Kentucky Journal of Communication*, 25(2), 149-162.

## Published Texts

- Gesler, D. M. (2010). Introductions and conclusions. In Murray State University, Department of Organizational Communication (Ed.), *Selling yourself and your ideas: A text/workbook for building presentation skills* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) (pp. 115-136). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company.
- Gesler, D. M. (2009). Introductions and conclusions. In Murray State University, Department of Organizational Communication (Ed.), *Selling yourself and your ideas: A guidebook for building presentation skills* (pp. 117-138). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company.

## Presentations

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| 2008 | ABW  | Nasvhille, TN  |
|      |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gesler, D. "How Organizational Members Describe Ethical and Communicatively Competent Leaders: Good Advice to Become Good Leaders". Empirical research paper presented at the Academic Business World International annual Conference. Reworked and reanalyzed paper from 2005.</li></ul>                      |
| 2008 | SSCA | Savannah, GA   |
|      |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gesler, D., &amp; Cox, S. "The relationship between parental communication, exercise, and BMI in young adults: Go ride your bike." Empirical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual Conference.</li></ul>  |
| 2007 | SSCA | Louisville, KY   |
|      |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cox, S., &amp; Gesler, D. "If you're good I'll give you a cookie: Parental communication and childhood obesity." Panelist on "Current topics in applied health communication research panel." Empirical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual Conference.</li></ul> |
| 2006 | SSCA | Dallas, TX   |
|      |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gesler, D. "Observer's Demographic Profile in Relation to Leadership Communication Competence". Empirical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual Conference.</li></ul>   |
| 2005 | SSCA | Baton Rouge, LA  |

- Gesler, D. "How Organizational Members Describe Ethical and Communicatively Competent Leaders: Good Advice to Become Good Leaders". Empirical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual Conference. **Top paper, Applied division.**
- 2004 NCA Chicago, IL
- Gesler, D. "The Relationship Between Leadership Ethics and Communication Competence: Does it Really Matter what Leaders Say, as Long as They Say it Well?". Empirical research paper presented at the National Communication Association annual convention.
- 2004 SSCA Tampa, FL
- Gesler, D. "He's Ethical, She's Ethical, Shouldn't You Be Ethical Too? Defining, Sourcing, and Applying Ethics for Educators and Family Members". Empirical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual Conference.
- 2003 TCA Murfreesboro, TN
- Gesler, D. "Contextual and Cultural Conceptions of Observer-based Leadership Communication Competence Within Organizational Settings: A Proposed Study". Paper presented at the Tennessee Communication Association annual conference.
- 2003 SSCA Birmingham, AL
- Pysher-Jurczak, L., LaCoste, M., & Gesler, D. "Leadership Communication Competence and Standpoint Theory: Should You Lead Until You've Walked a Mile in Their Shoes?". Empirical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual Conference. **Top three paper, Applied division; Bostrom award finalist.**
- 2002 NCA New Orleans, LA
- Gesler, D. "To Define or not to Define: Has Organizational Ethical Culture Become too Complex?". Empirical research paper presented at the National Communication Association annual Conference.
- 2002 UT Research Symposium Knoxville, TN
- Gesler, D., LaCoste, M., & Pysher-Jurczak, L. "Leadership Communication Competence and Standpoint Theory: Don't Lead Until You've Walked a Mile in Their Shoes". Empirical research paper presented at the University of Tennessee Annual Research Symposium.
- 2002 SCCA Winston-Salem, NC
- Gesler, D. "How General Robert R. Neyland Created the University of Tennessee Football Culture of Today". Historical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual conference.
- 2002 SSCA Winston-Salem, NC
- Gesler, D. "If You Build It, It Will Become". Empirical research paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual conference. **Bostrom award finalist.**
- 2001 TCA/KCA Gilbertsville, KY
- Gesler, D. "If You Build It, It Will Become". Empirical research paper accepted at the Tennessee Communication Association and Kentucky Communication Association joint conference.
- 1999 CSCA/SSCA St. Louis, MO



2010. **Teacher.** Summer Sunday school “large group” for 20+ 5-12 year old children. First United Methodist Church, Murray, KY.

2010. **Teacher.** Sunday School teacher, adult class. First United Methodist Church, Murray, KY.

2009. **Teacher.** Summer Sunday school “large group” for 20+ 5-12 year old children. First United Methodist Church, Murray, KY.

2009. **Teacher.** Sunday School teacher, adult class. First United Methodist Church, Murray, KY.

2009. **Coach.** Hart Residential College Debate Team.

2008. **Trainer.** Presented training on “Dealing with problem customers” to the Murray Chamber of Commerce lunch session. Murray Chamber of Commerce, Murray, KY.

2008. **Teacher.** Summer Sunday school “large group” for 20+ 5-12 year old children. First United Methodist Church, Murray, KY.

2007. **Teacher.** Summer Sunday school “large group” for 20+ 5-12 year old children. First United Methodist Church, Murray, KY.

2007. **Chair.** Office held in the Applied Communication division of SSCA, Louisville, KY.

2006. **Presenter.** “Leadership Communication”. For Emerging Leaders program, Murray State University, Murray, KY.

2006. **Judge.** FBLA Region I Leadership Conference, Interview finals. Murray, KY

2006. **Judge.** DECA Region I Career Development Conference, Marketing and Public Relations event. Murray, KY.

2006. **Vice Chair, program planner.** Office held in the Applied Communication division of SSCA, Dallas, TX.

2005. **Presenter.** “Conflict Resolution Training”. For Heritage Bank Corporate offices, Hopkinsville, KY.

2005. **Presenter.** “Conflict Resolution Training”. For the Department of KY Criminal Justice. Richmond, KY. Presented 3 full days of training.

2005. **Presenter.** “Leadership Communication”. For Emerging Leaders program, Murray State University, Murray, KY.

2005. **Assistant Soccer Coach.** Helped coach 4-5 year olds in Upward Soccer program, Murray, KY.

2005. **Vice Chair Elect.** Office held in the Applied Communication division of SSCA. Baton Rouge, LA.

2004. **Judge.** FBLA Region I Leadership Conference, Emerging Business Issues event. Murray, KY.

2004. **Presenter.** “Leadership Communication”. For Emerging Leaders program, Murray State University, Murray, KY.

2004. **Judge.** DECA Region I Career Development Conference, Sports and Entertainment Marketing Division. Murray, KY.

2004. **Secretary.** Office held in the Applied Communication division of SSCA. Birmingham, AL; Tampa, FL.

2001. **Instructor.** “Presentation Skills in the Classroom”. Seminar presented to new graduate teaching assistants/associates at the UT GTA Orientation. University of Tennessee. Knoxville, TN.

1998. **Trainer.** “Effective Communication in Difficult Situations”. Training session presented for the Court Appointed Special Advocate organization. Murray, KY.

1997. **Basketball Instructor.** Helped coach over 150 children, ages 4-14, in basic basketball techniques in a basketball camp setting. Murray, KY.

1994. **Staff Counselor.** Helped counsel and instruct children (ages 9-12) in a camp setting. Camps consisted of 300-400 children each weekend for a ten week season. Forest Falls, CA.

1993. **Football Instructor.** Helped coach over 100 children, ages 7-14, in basic football techniques in a football camp setting. Davis, CA.

1988-1992. **Center,** offensive line. Played center for an inter-collegiate (NCAA) football team (three years varsity; two year starter). University of California, Davis. Davis, CA

1988. **Assistant Football Coach.** Coached the offensive line for Foothill high school freshman team. Santa Ana, CA.