

# Kyle Leathers

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## Education

September 2004 to present: Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Degree: Doctorate of Philosophy expected May 2008

Major: Communication Studies

Area of Interest: Crisis & Health Communication, Advisor: Matt Seeger

Minor: Education Evaluation Research

August 2004 to August 2005: Wayne State University Graduate School, Detroit, MI

The Thomas C. Rumble Fellowship is the most prestigious award available from the Wayne State University Graduate School. First-year students are recruited with this fellowship and are awarded a graduate teaching assistantship in the following years.

August 2001 to May 2004: University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV

Degree: Master of Arts

Major: Speech Communication

Minor: Social Psychology

August 2000 to May 2001: Indiana Wesleyan University, Indianapolis, IN

Pursued: Master in Science, Management: 15 hours completed

Major: Business

January 1992 to December 1997: University of Southern Indiana, Evansville, IN

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Majors: Sociology and Communication (Advertising)

## Scholarly Publications

Community - Autoethnography: Compiling the Personal and Resituating Whiteness. Toyosaki, S., Pensoneau-Conway, S. L., Leathers, K., & Wendt, N. A. (2008). *Cultural Studies - Critical Methods*, 8,(4). This is an exploratory piece initiated by the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse in collaboration with Wayne State University.

Applying the Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) Integrative Model to Bioterrorism Preparedness: A Nevada Case Study. Ballard-Reisch, D., Clements-Nolle, K., Jenkins, T., Sacks, T., Pruitt, K., & Leathers, K. (2007). In, M. Seeger, T. Sellnow, and R. Ulmer (eds.), *Crisis Communication and the Public Health*. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press. This book chapter is a collaborative publication by the University of Nevada, Reno School of Public Health.

## Scholarly Presentations

12 April 2008

*Central States Communication Association* – Madison WI. Panel title: *Instruction as Activism: Addressing Oppression*. Practitioners from four institutions discussed various pedagogical strategies for addressing oppression in the classroom.

29 March 2007

*Central States Communication Association* – Minneapolis, MN. Panel title: Paulo Freire, Social Pedagogue: Expanding His Work in Social Responsibility. Panelists discussed the complex role of higher educators as both teachers and activists. Pitfalls and opportunities with blending these roles were identified.

06 November 2006

*National Communication Association* – San Antonio, TX. Panel title: Connecting Performance and Pedagogy On Campus. Reported on interactive classroom exercises that utilized drama as a learning tool in a History of Theater class at Wayne State University.

05 April 2006

*Central States Communication Association* – Indianapolis, IN. Panel title: Organizational Responsibility in Complex Information Systems. This panel explored information systems through case studies in the areas of crisis communication, public utility aide, and agenda setting.

12 November 2004

*National Communication Association* – Chicago, IL. Panel title: Crisis Communication and the Public Health. Upon request from faculty, research was presented concerning the importance of merging crisis and risk communication, which are usually perceived as distinct fields.

21 November 2003

*National Communication Association* - Miami, FL. Panel title: Academic-practice Partnerships in Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness. As a result of research conducted in the State of Nevada, a panel discussion was initiated so that the University of Nevada, Reno could compare and share ideas of their applied communication research with researchers at North Dakota State University, Wayne State University, and the University of Arkansas, Little Rock.

12 February 2003

*Northwest/Southwest District Combined Conference American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance* - Sparks, NV. Session title: Bioterrorism Risk Communication: Pre and post event preparedness. The Federal Emergency Management Administration's disaster lifecycle was used to illustrate academic research and theory on both risk and crisis communication in a potential bioterrorism situation.

05 October 2002

Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender - Minneapolis, MN. Round table title: OSCLG - Past and Present: Rediscovering our roots - exploring our

development. Presented a thematic analysis covering the first eight years of the academic journal “Women and Language News”, currently titled “Women and Language”.

## Teaching\*

June 2005 to May 2008

Instructor - *Wayne State University* – Department of Communication. Oral Communication: Basic Speech. This general education requirement focuses on the organization and oral presentation of basic material.

Instructor - *Wayne State University* – Department of Communication. Special Topics in Oral Communication: Speaking About Music in Society. This course, competitively selected by the Basic Course Committee, is tailored to the interest of the current student population.

Instructor - *Wayne State University* – Department of Communication. Communication Theory. This upper level course is writing intensive and is a requirement for communication majors.

August 2001 to May 2003

Teaching Assistant - *University of Nevada, Reno* - Department of Geography. Assisted in World Geography, Methodologies, and History of Nevada courses. Duties included: assisting students with class material, design & grading of assignments and tests, lecturing and logging grades.

Teaching Assistant - *University of Nevada, Reno* - Department of Sociology. Assisted in Introductory Sociology courses and an upper division Deviance & Conformity course. Duties included: assisting students with class material, design and grading of assignments and tests, lecturing and logging grades.

\* A portfolio is available upon request

## Professional Development

07 May 2008

Joint Information Center Exercise. Conducted at Monroe Community College, Monroe, MI. Sponsored by *Detroit Edison*. This exercise tested the information processing capabilities of Detroit Edison’s response personnel in the case of a general emergency at the nuclear power production facility.

18 April 2008

How to be Successful in Higher Education. Detroit, MI. Sponsored by *Michigan Graduate Education and the Professoriate Alliances*. The keynote speaker for this event was Dr. Jan Collins-Eaglin, Michigan State University Counseling Center.

March 2008

Federal Emergency Management Agency, on-line training. IS-100 - Introduction to Incident Command System (15 March 2008), IS-200 ICS - Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents (16 March 2008), IS 700 - National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction (15 March 2008), IS-702 – National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) Public Information Systems (29 March 2008), IS-800 - A National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction (28 March 2008).

August 2007

Annual Basic Course Instructor's Orientation. Sponsored by *Department of Communication, Wayne State University*, Detroit, MI. Presented at Good Ideas for Teaching Public Speaking (GIFTS) session.

May 2007

Wayne State University Annual Summer Doctoral Seminar. Sponsored by *Department of Communication, Wayne State University*, Detroit, MI. Twelve national and international doctoral students counseled with visiting scholar Howard Giles (University of California-Santa Barbara) concerning both intra- and interdisciplinary perspectives. This helped students both academically and professionally by nurturing research and network opportunities.

August 2006

Annual Basic Course Instructor's Orientation. Sponsored by *Department of Communication, Wayne State University*, Detroit, MI. This seminar series included group consultation with the basic course director and other basic course instructors.

23 February 2006

Engaged Learning: A Journey to the Future. Sponsored by *Wayne State University, Office of the Provost & Honors Program*, Detroit, MI. Keynote speaker: Dr. Vincent Tinto, Distinguished University Professor Chair, Higher Education Program School of Education, Syracuse University.

11 May 2005

Operation Perfect Game. Detroit, MI. Sponsored by the *Department of Homeland Security and the Office for State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness*. This was a regional emergency response exercise conducted at the Comerica Tigers Stadium prior to the Detroit's hosting the Super bowl. As a representative of Wayne State University's *Institute for Information Technology and Culture*, I was part of the evaluation team providing feedback to exercise administrators.

15 March 2005

Crossings: Workshop on Cross-border Security Cooperation. Sponsored by *Canadian Embassy* and the *National Science Foundation*; hosted by the *Institute for Information Technology and Culture*. In the interest of cooperating around national security, 20 university researchers and 24 disaster managers were gathered to explore cultural and institutional differences and similarities that exist concerning emergency response.

May 2004

Communication Training Systems. *Department of Speech Communication, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV.* A professional training proposal was developed describing the importance of the proactive use of interviews by organizations.

07 November 2001

Understanding and Managing the Stress in Your Life. Sponsored by the *University of Nevada, Reno, Office of Continuous Quality Improvement Training & Development* Reno, NV.

August to December 2001

Excellence in Teaching Program. *Graduate School, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV.* This series of workshops and training sessions put on by various departments aims to support and enhance excellent and innovative teaching by both faculty and graduate students. The primary goal is to promote active and engaged learning by UNR students.

## Military Service

July 1998 to May 2000 – honorable discharge

Intelligence Analyst - *Army National Guard. 276<sup>TH</sup> Military Intelligence Company, Indianapolis, IN* Company gathered and analyzed data specific to enemy movement via communication with couriers, air support, and combatants in the field. Face-to-face, computer, phone, and written communication were utilized. Duties included: Compiling data onto various maps and charts and developing recommendations for officers to assist them in determining plans of action.

November 1988 to November 1991 – honorable discharge

Aircraft Handler - *U.S. Navy. USS Forrestal, Mayport, FL*  
Duties included: working on a team that launched, recovered, and re-spotted aircraft in a sea-going environment. The job involved the use of extensive somatic and verbal communication, as well as teamwork among four ship's divisions and six squadrons. Time is limited in this operation and deadlines for launch and recovery procedures are vital.

## Organizational Affiliations

June 2005 to present

Member. *Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT)*. Training Provided by Detroit Department of Homeland Security and the Michigan Community Service Commission.

February 2005 to present

Testing Manager. *Search and Technical Rescue Association* – Madison Heights, MI. Public interaction at public relations events, committee member for the National Professional Qualifications Board accreditation review, guest lecturer.

August 2005 to August 2007

Department Steward. *Graduate Employees Organizing Committee, American Federation of Teachers, Local 6123 – Wayne State University.* Volunteer duties included contract bargaining with the university, disseminating information to members regarding GEOC activities, representing fellow members at grievances and counseling with other departmental stewards to plan future committee activities.

## Course Work

*Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.* Currently enrolled:

### Organizational Communication

Communication 9991-9993 – Dissertation Credits (15 hrs. completed)  
 Communication 7991 – Directed Study: Crisis Communication  
 Communication 7991 - Directed Study: Crisis Communication  
 Communication 6200 – Small Group Communication

### Methods

Communication 9990 – Pre-doctoral Candidate Research  
 Communication 8230 – Ethnographic Research Methods  
 Communication 7580 – Content Analysis  
 Communication 7260 – Behavioral Research Methods  
 Education Evaluation Research 8700 – Advanced Qualitative Evaluation  
 Education Evaluation Research 7620 – Practicum Evaluation  
 Education Evaluation Research 7660 – Statistics Lab  
 Education Evaluation Research 7650 – Computer Use in Research

### Communication in Education

Communication 7810 – Seminar: Communication Education  
 Communication 7010 – Special Topics: Critical Pedagogy

### General Education

Communication 8000 – Introduction to Doctoral Studies  
 Communication 7250 – Rhetorical Criticism  
 Communication 7210 – Communication Theory  
 Communication 7010 – Special Topics: Persuasion & Social Influence

*University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, Nevada*

### Organizational Communication

Speech Communication 730 – Seminar: Organizational Communication  
 Speech Communication 695 – Independent Study: Legal Argumentation  
 Speech Communication 690 – Special Problems: Crisis Communication  
 Speech Communication 680 – Communication Training Systems  
 Speech Communication 628 – Organizational Communication  
 Health Ecology 791 – Seminar: Bioterrorism Risk Communication  
 Health Ecology 693 – Individual Readings: Bioterrorism & Communication

Methods

Health Ecology 718 – Research Methods in Social Psychology  
Psychology 709 - Statistical Procedure  
Speech Communication 700 – Research Methods in Communication

Social Psychology

Sociology 740 – Theories in Social Psychology II  
Sociology 739 – Theories in Social Psychology I  
Psychology 746 - Social Psychology & Law

General Education

Speech Communication 750 – Seminar: Persuasion  
Graduate 701 – College Teaching

*Indiana Wesleyan University, Indianapolis, IN*

Business

Management 544 – Analysis & Decision-Making  
Management 532 – Human Relations & Management  
Management 525 – Managerial Ethics  
Management 513 – Managerial Economics  
Management 510 – Theory & Practice of Business

## References

### Professional

Dr. Deborah Ballard-Reisch  
Kansas Health Foundation Distinguished Chair of Strategic Communication  
Elliott School of Communication  
Wichita State University  
Phone: (316) 978-6066; email: Deborah.Ballard-Reisch@wichita.edu

Michael Brink – Chief Executive Officer  
Search and Technical Rescue Association  
1412 E. Eleven Mile  
Madison Heights, MI 48071  
Phone: (248) 721-1736; email: tecrescue@sbcglobal.net

Dr. Sandy Pensoneau-Conway - Basic Course Director  
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585 Manoogian Hall  
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Phone: (313) 577-6295; email: sandyp@wayne.edu

Dr. Matthew Seeger – Department Chair  
Department of Communication  
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Phone: (313) 577-2943; email: matt.seeger@wayne.edu

Dr. Karen Tonso – Associate Professor  
Department of Education  
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### Personal

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