**Vita**

**Thomas M. Lessl**

I. Academic History

Ph.D. in Speech Communication, University of Texas at Austin, 1985

Academic Positions

2009 - present Professor

Department of Communication Studies

University of Georgia

2011 – present *Chef de Station*

UGA à Paris

University of Georgia

1993 - 2009 Associate Professor

Department of Communication Studies

University of Georgia

1985 - 1993 Assistant Professor

Department of Communication Studies

University of Georgia

1989 - 1990 Visiting Assistant Professor

Communication Arts Department

University of Wisconsin

II. Resident Instruction

COMM 1100 Introduction to Public Speaking

COMM 2150H Honors Public Speaking

COMM 3100 Advanced Public Speaking

COMM 3310 Case Studies in Public Communication:

-Science and Religion

-The Rhetoric of Imagination

-Argumentative Composition

COMM 3500 Introduction to Communication Theory

COMM 3300 Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism

COMM 4110/6110 Speech Composition

COMM 4200 Introduction to Rhetorical Theory

COMM 4210 Classical Rhetoric

COMM 4340 Communication and Religion

COMM 4520 Persuasion

COMM 4360 Rhetoric of Social Movements

COMM/HIST 4635 Paris and its Symbols: Public Art and the Public Self

COMM 4700 Modern Rhetorical Theory

COMM 4900 Environmental Communication

COMM 4900 Speech Composition (also taught as COMM 3310)

COMM 8300 Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism

COMM 8330 Special Topics in Rhetorical Theory: Myth, Narrative, and Symbol

COMM 8350 Seminar in the Rhetoric of Science

COMM 8200 Seminar in Rhetorical Theory

COMM 8210 Seminar in Classical Rhetoric

ECOL 9000 Scientific Communication

III. Scholarly Activities

A. Publications

Book

Lessl, Thomas M. *Rhetorical Darwinism: Evolution, Religion and the Scientific Identity.* Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2012.

Articles

Lessl, Thomas M. "Religion as Knowledge" (Accepted for Publication) *New Oxford Review.*

Lessl, Thomas M. "The Dialogical Ethics of Romance: Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Hamilton" *Journal of Dialogic Ethics* (In Press, Spring 2022).

Lessl, Thomas M. "The Argumentative Shortcomings of Educators’ Efforts to Talk about Religion and Science: Mixed Enthymemes in *Understanding Science*. *Cultural Studies of Science Education* 6 (2021): https://doi.org/10.1007/s11422-021-10094-0

Lessl, Thomas M. "Demarcation as a Classroom Response to Creationism: A Critical Examination of the National Academy of Sciences’ Science, Evolution, and Creationism." *Cultural Studies of Science Education* 5 (2020): 923-935

Lessl, Thomas M. “Naïve Empiricism and the Nature of Science in Narratives of Conflict Between Science and Religion.” *Science & Education* 27 (2018): 625-636.

Lessl, Thomas M. “*Apologia Ad Hominem*,” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 41 (2018): 5-13.

Lessl, Thomas, M. “Looking Along Nietzsche’s *The Antichrist.*” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 38 (2016): 5-19.

Lessl, Thomas, M. “The Stockholm Syndrome in Communication Studies: Liz Miller and *Rhetorical Darwinism*.” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 39 (2016): 127-131.

Lessl, Thomas, M. “Civic Engagement from Religious Grounds.” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 32 (2009): 195-198.

Lessl, Thomas, M. “The Innate Religiosity of Public Life: An *A Fortiori* Argument.” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 32 (2009): 298–325.

Lessl, Thomas, M. “The Culture of Science and the Rhetoric of Scientism: From Francis Bacon to the Darwin Fish.” *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 93 (2007): 123-149.

Lessl, Thomas M. “The Mythological Conditioning of Scientific Naturalism.” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 28 (2005): 23-46.

Lessl, Thomas M. “The Legacy of C. S. Lewis and the Prospect of Religious Rhetoric.”  *Journal of Communication and Religion* 27 (2004): 117-137.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Scientific Rhetoric as Religious Advocacy: Evolution and the Public Schools.” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 26 (2003): 1-27.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Gnostic Scientism and the Prohibition of Questions.” *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 5 (2002): 133-157.

Hubler, Michael, and T. M. Lessl. “The Establishment Clause and the Problem of

Religious Symbolism: How Metaphor Theory Might Guide First Amendment Jurisprudence.” *Free Speech Yearbook* 38 (2001): 81-97.

Lessl, Thomas. M. “The Galileo Legend.” *New Oxford Review* (June 2000): 27-33. (Translated into Italian as “La leggenda di Galileo,” http://www.acquaviva2000.com/STORIA/Galileo%20Galilei.htm)

Lessl, Thomas M. “Darwinism, Dawkinism & Christian Accommodationism.” *New Oxford Review* (February, 2000): 28-33.

Lessl Shively, Ruth M., and Thomas. M. Lessl. “The Abolition of Value in the Classroom: Some Observations from the Language Arts.” *The Christian Scholars Review* (Winter, 1999): 347-360.

Lessl, Thomas M. “The Galileo Legend as Scientific Folklore.” *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 85 (Spring 1999): 146-168.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Intelligent Design: A Look at the Literature.” *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 1 (Winter 1999): 617-636.

Lessl, Thomas M. “The Social Implications of Genre: A Burkean Interpretation of Aristotle.” *Speaker and Gavel* 34(1997): 1-10.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Conceptualizing Rhetoric Through Analogy.” *The*

*Speech Communication Teacher* 11(1997): 11-12.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Naturalizing Science: Two Episodes in the Evolution of a Rhetoric

of Scientism.” *Western Journal of Communication* 60 (1996): 379-396.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Toward a Definition of Religious Communication: Scientific and Religious uses of Evolution.” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 16 (1993): 127-138.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Punctuation and the Constitution of Public Identities: Primary and Secondary Sequences in the Scopes Episode.” *Communication Theory* 3 (1993): 91-111.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Francis Bacon and the Biblical Origins of the Scientific Ethos.” *Journal of Communication and Religion* 15 (1992): 87-98.

Lessl, Thomas M. “The Priestly Voice.” *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 75 (1989): 183-197.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Heresy, Orthodoxy, and the Politics of Science.” *Quarterly Journal*

*of Speech* 74 (1988): 18-34.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Science and the Sacred Cosmos: The Ideological Rhetoric of Carl Sagan.” *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 71 (1985): 175-187.

Book Chapters

Lessl, Thomas M. “The Christian Educator in a Prodigal University.” *Integrating Christian Faith in the Public University: Conversations with Faculty.* Edited by Jonathan Pettigrew and Robert Woods Jr*.,* Wipf & Stock, (In Press).

Lessl, Thomas M. "Foreword." *Communication Ethics and Tenacious Hope: Contemporary Implications of the Scottish Enlightenment*. By Ronald C. Arnett, ix-xi. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 2021.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971): Placing Reason and Revelation, in Historical Dialogue.” *Words and Witnesses: Communication Studies in Christian Thought from Athanasius to Desmond Tutu*. Edited by Robert Woods Jr. and Naaman K. Wood, 229-236. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2018.

## Lessl, Thomas M. “Evolutionism.” *The International Encyclopedia of Communication Theory and Philosophy*. Edited by Klaus Bruhn Jensen Wiley. Blackwell-ICA International Encyclopedias, 2016.

## Lessl, Thomas M. “The ‘Warfare’ of Science and Religion and Science’s Ethical Profile.” In *A Language for our Biotechnological Future* edited by Michael J. Hyde and James Herrick, 55-72. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2013.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Science and Religion: A Rhetorical Perspective.” in *Religion and Communication: An Anthology of Extensions in Theory, Research, & Method* edited by Stephen M. Croucher and Tina M. Harris, 243-57. New York: Peter Lang, 2012.

## Lessl, Thomas M. “Scientific Demarcation and Metascience: The National Academy of Sciences on Greenhouse Warming and Evolution.” In *Controversy and Confrontation* edited by Frans H. van Eemeren and Bart Garssen, 77-91. Amsterdam: Benjamins, 2008.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Incommensurate Boundaries: The Rhetorical Positivism of Thomas

Huxley.” in *Rhetoric and Incommensurability,* edited by Randy Harris West, 198-237. Lafayette, Ind.: Parlor Press, 2005.

Lessl, Thomas M. “William Whipper.” In *African American Orators: A Bio-Critical Sourcebook*, edited by Richard Leeman, 143-52. Westport,Conn.:Greenwood Press, 1996 .

Lessl, Thomas M. “Andrew Jackson.” In *U.S. Presidents as Orators: A Bio-Critical Sourcebook*, edited by Halford Ryan, 65-76. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press, 1995.

Lessl, Thomas M. “The Scopes trial: Bryan vs. Darrow vs. Darrow vs. Bryan.’” In *Oratorical Encounters*, edited by Halford Ryan, 13-20. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1987.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Andrew Jackson.” In *American Orators Before 1900: Critical Studies and Sources*, edited by Halford Ryan and B. Duffy, 238-244. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press, 1987.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Science and the Sacred Cosmos: The ideological Rhetoric of Carl Sagan.” *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 71 (1985): 175-187. Reprinted in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* Detroit edited by Debbie Schmitt, Farmington Hills, Mich: Gale Research, 1999.

Other Publications

Lessl, Thomas M. “Elements of Composition.” In *The Art and Craft of Public Speaking*. Athens, GA: Xanedu. 2020

Lessl, Thomas M. “Introductions and Conclusions” In *The Art and Craft of Public Speaking*. Athens, GA: Xanedu. 2020

Lessl, Thomas M. “Expanding Your Speech in Outline Form” In *The Art and Craft of Public Speaking*. Athens, GA: Xanedu. 2020

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Storm of Words: Science, Religion, and Evolution in the Civil War Era* by Monte Harrell Hampton. *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 20 (2017): 764-767.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Scientists as Prophets: A Rhetorical Genealogy* by Lynda Walsh. *Rhetorica* 35 (2017): 118-120.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *On The Frontier of Science: An American Rhetoric of Exploration and Exploitation* by Leah Ceccarelli. *Isis* 106 (March 2015): 215-216

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *The Politics of Sacred Rhetoric: Absolutist Appeals and Political Persuasion* by Morgan Marietta. Journal of Church & State 55 (2013): 583-584.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Doubts about Darwin* by Thomas Woodward. *Journal of Communication and Religion*. 30 (2007): 379-382.

Lessl, Thomas, “Scientific Demarcation and Metascience: The National Academy of Sciences on the Greenhouse Effect and Neo-Darwinism.” *Proceedings of the Sixth Conference of the International Society for the Study of Argumentation* eds. Frans H. van Eemeren, Charles Willard and Bard Garssen. 873-879. International Center for the Study of Argumentation (2007)

Lessl, Thomas, “Science and Rhetoric,” *The Galilean Library*, http://www.galilean‑library.org/academy/ (2005)

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Darwin, Design, and Public Education* edited by John

Angus Campbell and Stephen Meyer and *Rhetoric and Dialectic in the Time of Galileo* by Jean Dietz Moss and William Wallace. *Quarterly Journal of Speech*. 90 (2004): 366-369.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Preacher: Billy Sunday and Big-Time American Evangelism* by Roger Bruns. *Argument and Advocacy,* 40 (2003) 58-59.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *God in the Details: American Religion in Popular Culture,* edited by Eric Michael Mazur and Kate McCarthy. *Review of Communication*. 2003.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Stations of the Cross: Adorno and Christian Right Radio* by Paul Apostolidis. *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 4 (2001): 563-566.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Huxley: From Devils Disciple to Sciences High Priest*, by Adrian Desmond. *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 84 (1998): 522-523.

Lessl, Thomas M. “Behe Comes to Georgia” *Access Research Network*

http://www.arn.org/docs/behe/mblr22698.htm 1998.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Between Two Absolutes: Public Opinion and the Politics of Abortion*, by Elizabeth Adell Cook, Ted G. Jelen, and Clyde Wilcox. *Journal of Church and State* 24 (1994): 169.

Shively, Ruth M., and T. M. Lessl. “The Abolition of Value in Communication

Instruction: Some Observations and Suggestions.” In *Faith, Story, Community: Proceedings of the 1993 Conference on Christianity and Communication*. edited by Helen Sterk and William Thorn, Marquette University 1993.

Lessl, Thomas M. (1991) “The scientization of nature: Jacob Bronowski's *Ascent*.” In Donn Parson (Ed.), *Proceedings of the Seventh SCA/AFA Conference on Argumentation*, edited by Donn Parson, 294-298. Annendale, Virginia: Speech Communication Association, 1991.

Lessl, Thomas M. Review of *Religion and the State: Essays in Honor of Leo Pfeffer,*. edited by James E. Wood Jr. *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 73 (1987): 254-256.

Film

*UGA à Paris: A Moveable Feast* Promotional film.Writer, Director, Producer, Narrator, Composer. 3rd ed. 2017

Instructional Videos

*Introduction: Five Reasons You Should Care About Writing*

*The Problem of Clutter*

*More Practice Editing for Clutter*

*Building Strong Sentences*

*Revising Sentences*

*Developing Coherent Paragraphs*

*Style: An Introduction*

*Basics of Epideictic Speaking*

*Epideictic Speaking: Thematic Development Part One*

*Epideictic Speaking: Thematic Development Part Two*

B. Grants and Monetary Awards

NEH Summer Seminar (3,700.00)

John Templeton Foundation Course Award ($500.00)

John Templeton Foundation Course Award ($10,000.00)

Karl Wallace Memorial Fund, 1989 ($1,200.00).

Humanities Center Travel Grant, 1993 ($900.00).

C. Recognitions and outstanding achievements

Nominated for Franklin College Outstanding Faculty Award, 2015.

Scholar of the Year Award, Religious Communication Association, 2014.

Book Award, Religious Communication Association, “Rhetorical Darwinism: Religion, Evolution and the Scientific Identity,” 2012

Article Award, Religious Communication Association, “The Innate Religiosity of Public Life: An *A Fortiori* Argument,” 2009.

Article Award, Religious Communication Association, “The Mythological Conditioning of Scientific Naturalism,” 2005

Excellence in Teaching, University of Georgia Student Government, 2004.

Karl Wallace Memorial Award, 1989.

Nominated for Speech Communication Association Dissertation Award 1986.

Elected to Phi Beta Kappa, 1978.

Elected to Phi Kappa Phi, 1984.

Top five paper in free speech, National Communication Association Convention, 1997.

Wrage-Baskerville Award in Public Address, Speech Communication Association

Convention, 1991.

Wrage -Baskerville Award in Public Address, Speech Communication Association

Convention, 1986.

Top student paper in Mass Communication, Speech Communication

Association Convention, 1985

D. Research Areas

The research program in the **rhetoric of science** has dealt mainly with the public presentation of science and has emphasized the following concerns: (1) the syncretistic features of public science--its tendency to draw together a metaphysics taken from Western religion and a secular ideology created by the post-enlightenment cultures of the West. (2) the constraints placed upon scientific communicators due to the complexity of their discourses and the heterogeneity of their audiences.

A related body of research is concerned with the social construction of institutional and public identities through conflict: (1) the dialectic of heresy and orthodoxy as the basis by which institutional identities are adjusted and affirmed; and (2) the introduction of causal attributions in public discourse as an attributional mechanism of social constitution.

Closely tied to the work done in the area of scientific rhetoric are explorations of the special problems associated with **religious communication** in a world dominated by scientific rationality. This research has often been concerned with the problem of scientism, the tendency of scientific patterns of thought to play a religious role in secular societies.

E. Supervision of student research

1. Doctoral committees served

Robert Frank, Marouf Hasian, Kimberly Kline, Hilary Wilson, Patrick Wheaton, Kris Sheedy, Enid Sefcovic, David Sutton, Joanna Ploeger-Tsoulos, Lynette Long, Gayle Garner, Chris Herzog, Doyle Srader, Michael Hubler, Caitlin Wills, Paul Achter, Windy Lawrence, Ilon Lauer, Ken Rufo, Benjamin Bates, Tasha Dubriny, John Lynch, Nneka Ofulue, Eric Jenkins, Kristen McCauliff, Lisa Slawter, David Cisneros, Melanie McNaughton, Eric Jenkins, Jason Myres, Will Mosley-Jensen, Lee Pierce, Steven Murray, Erin Forrest, Ashley Gellert, Marilyn Primovic (Grady)

2. Current Ph.D. Advisees

Alexander Morales, Matthew Farmer

3. Dissertations Directed

Banister, John, (2020) “Defending Judicial Authority: Legitimation Argument Strategies of the Roberts Court.

Ashley Gellert, (Directed through 2019, completed 2020). “'To Fix Scout Habits in Our Hearts and Hands': Positionality and Ethos in Girl Scouts of the US Discourse: 1916-1921."

Leland Spencer, (2013 Co-directed with Celeste Condit) “Speaking Through the Stained Glass Ceiling: Women Bishops’ Rhetorical Constitution of Church Leadership.”

Bethany Keeley, (2012) “God’s People, God’s Blessing: Rhetorics of Religion, Patriotism and Capitalism in American Prosperity.”

Ilon Lauer, (2006) “Ceremonial and Religious Functions of Roman Epideictic Genres.”

Lilla Gayle Garner, (2001) “A Rhetorical Investigation of Energy-Related Environmental Issues and Proposed Modeling of Variables Influencing the Employment of Domestic Solar Water Heaters with a Focus on Mobilizing Information.”

Sutton, David Lee, (1994) “The Fullest Possible Accounting: The Myth of American Pow/Mias in Southeast Asia, 1973 to 1993.”

3. Masters Theses Directed

Keeley, Bethany, (2007) “Buy This Faith: Rhetorics of Consumer Spirituality and Alternatives in Religious Practice.”

Smith, Patrick, (2003) “Fashioning Identity and Memory of the World War II Generation: An Analysis of Tom Brokaw’s *The Greatest Generation*.”

Hayne, Caroline, (2001) “Types and Anti-Types: Biblical Symbolism and Rhetoric.”

Bates, Benjamin, (2000) “Capital and Clash: A Bourdieusian Analysis of Muammer Gaddafi’s Green Book.”

Neighbors, Len, (1997) “The Three Trials of Ezra Pound.”

Hubler, Michael, (1997) “The Rhetorical Other in Constitutive Discourse: An Analysis of Interaction Between the Christian Right and Secular Humanist Groups.”

Brooks, Sean, (1996) “No Gorillas in our Midst: A Rhetoric of Separation.”

Hyatt, John S. (1995) “A Burkean Analysis of the Anti-Gay Rhetoric of the Christian Right.”

Shumate, Robbie G. (1995) “Emotion, Reason, and the Tao of C. S. Lewis: A Theory of Pathos.”

Sanchez, Gregory X. (1993) “Symbolic Similarities Between Lyndon Johnson's Great Society and Vietnam Rhetorics: Suggestions of a Single Ideology at wok in the Contruction of Two Very Different Discourses.”

Reindl, Darren S. (1991) “Myth and Meaning in C. S. Lewis’ *Chronicles of Narnia*: Master’s and Pupil’s Metaphors in Christian Narrative.”

Kraig, Robert A. (1989) “The Mission Myth in American Foreign Policy: The Carter Years.”

Janus, Michael J. (1989) “The Confederate Battle Flag: Southern Myth and Historical Narrative.”

Towler, Valerie C (1987) “The Nursling Metaphor and the Caretaking Public: Public Opinion in Local Newspapers During the Jan Kemp Trial.”

F. Editorial service

*Notes and Reviews: The Royal Society Journal of the History of Science,* 2018

*Science & Education*, 2018-Present

*Journal of Communication and Religion*, 1999 – Present.

*Western Journal of Communication*, associate editor, 2013-Present.

*Journal of Communication and Religion*, guest editor for special issue: Perspectives on Enhancing and Reinforcing Civic Engagement.

*Argument and Advocacy*, guest referee, 2016

*Argument in Context*, guest referee, 2016

*Advances in the History of Rhetoric*, guest referee, 2016, 2021

*Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, guest referee, 2015

*Critical Studies in Mediated Communication*, guest referee, 2015

*Argument and Advocacy*, guest referee, 2014, 2016

*British Journal of Sociology*, guest referee, 2010

Baylor University Press, Rhetoric and Religion Book Series, 2004-2012.

*Quarterly Journal of Speech*, associate editor, 1998-2000, 2004-2007, 2013-2016

*Communication Theory*, guest referee 1987-Present

*Rhetoric and Public Affairs*, guest referee 2001-Present

*Southern States Communication Journal*, guest referee, 1989-Present

*Social Studies of Science*, guest referee, 1999

Manuscript referee for SCA Rhetoric and Comm. Theory division.

G. Invited Presentations

“Belief and Knowledge,” Socratic Society, University of Georgia, Oct. 2021.

“Rationalism and Individualism as Identity Beliefs,” Socratic Society, University of Georgia, Sept. 2021.

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“The ‘Warfare’ of Science and Religion and Science’s Ethical Profile,” Wake Forest University, April, 2013.

“Crossroads,” Film Documentary, October, 2006.

“Rhetoric and the War between Science and Religion,” Eastern University, April, 2006.

“Media Matters: The Role of Journalists in Covering the Evolution Controversy,” sponsored by The Constitution Project, Texas A & M University, November 5, 2005.

“Galileo and the Warfare Legend,” Von Mises Institute, Auburn University, June 24, 2000.

H. Selected Conference Presentations

The Dialogical Ethics of Romance: Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Hamilton, Dialogic Ethics Conference, Duquesne University, August, 2021.

Gun Control and the Country Music Culture, Southern Communication Convention, Nashville, TN, 2018.

Romance and the Research University: Thomas H. Huxley’s ‘Origin of Species, National Communication Association Convention, Dallas, TX, 2017.

On the Invention of a Scientific Romance, Southern States Communication Association, Greenville, SC, 2017.

Reforming Scientific Communication about Anthropogenic Climate Change, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, D. C., 2010.

Christianity and Prophetic Rhetoric: A Revisionist Look at Darsey’s Thesis, National

Communication Association, San Diego, California, November, 2008.

Evolutionism and Intelligent Design, Conference on God, Science and Design, St. Anne’s College, Oxford, UK, July, 2008.

Pantheism and Scientism: C. S. Lewis: *Perelandra* as a Critical Narrative, National Communication Association, Chicago Illinois, November, 2007

Rhetorical Imagination and the Protestant Reformation : Bacons New Atlantis as Feigned History, International Society for the History of Rhetoric, University of Strasbourg (France), July 24-28, 2007.

Scientific Demarcation and Meta-science: The National Academy of Sciences on

Greenhouse Warming and Neo-Darwinism, ISSA Conference, Amsterdam, 2006

The Public Speaking Class as Company Town, National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, 2004.

The Darwin Fish: Militaristic and Spiritual Scientism, National Communication Association Convention, Miami, 2003.

Science and Religion: The Rhetoric of Levine and Miller, National Communication Association Convention, New Orleans, 2002.

The Darwin Fish: Scientism, Secularism and the Family Culture of the Modern West, National Communication Association Convention, Atlanta, 2001.

Scientific Rhetoric as Religious Advocacy: Evolution and the Public Schools, National Communication Association Convention, Seattle, 2000

Gnostic Themes in the Rhetoric of Science: Scientism and the Prohibition of Questions, Southern Communication Conference, New Orleans, 2000.

Literary displacement and the Secular Millennium in Condorcet and Saint-Simon, National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, 1999.

The Darwin Fish: Survey: A Critical Analysis, National Communication

Association Convention, New York, 1998.

The Galileo Legend and the Social Construction of Sciences Secular Identity, National Communication Association Convention, New York, 1998

Francis Bacon and the Rhetorical Roots of Scientism, National Communication Association Convention, New York, 1998.

(With Mike Hubler) The establishment Clause and the Problem of

Religious Symbolism, National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, November, 1997

The Galileo Episode in Scientific Folklore, Speech

Communication Association National Convention, San Diego, November, 1996.

Constructivism in the Classroom: The Epideictic Requirements of

Scientific Pedagogy. Presented at the Temple Discourse Analysis Conference, Temple University, April, 1995.

Naturalizing Science: Two Episodes in the Evolution of a

Rhetoric of Scientism. Presented at the Speech Communication Association National Convention, San Antonio, November, 1995.

Religion as Symbolic Form: Some Judicial Implications of

C. S. Lewis's Theory of Metaphor. Presented at the Speech Communication Association National Convention, San Antonio, November, 1995

The Constitutive Bearing of Rhetorical Discourse. Presented at

the Annual Meeting, Eastern Communication Association Convention, Washington, D. C. April, 1994

The Abolition of Rhetoric. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Miami, 1993

Respondent for program on the The Rhetoric of Social Constitution, Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Miami, 1993

Respondent for program on the Rhetorics of Power, Order, and Control, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Chicago, 1992.

Punctuation and the Constitution of Public Identities: Primary andSecondary Sequences in the Scopes Episode. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Chicago, November, 1992.

The Scientization of Nature: Jacob Bronowski's Ascent. Paper presented at the seventh annual conference on argumentation, August, 1991.

Francis Bacon and the Biblical Origins of the Scientific Ethos.Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Atlanta, November, 1991

Jacob Bronowski and the Rhetoric of Scientific Ideology: The Ascent of Man. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Chicago, 1990.

The Rhetoric of Scientism: Three Instances from the Pro-Space Movement. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, San Francisco, 1989.

Symbolic Action/Symbolic Reaction: Punctuation and the Relativity of Causation in the Scopes Trial. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, New Orleans, 1988.

The Religious Voice of the American Pro-Space Movement: Natural Theology in a Space Age. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Boston, 1987.

The Rhetoric of Romantic Science in Contemporary Science Fiction

Cinema. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Boston, 1987.

The Public Communication of Scientists as Priestly Discourse. Paper presented in

the Rhetorical Practices in Science Seminar, Speech Communication Association, Boston, 1987

Heresy, Orthodoxy, and the Politics of Science. Paper presented at

the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Chicago, 1986.

Axiological Meanings in the Rhetoric of the Final Frontier: The Public Voice of the American Space Movement. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Chicago, 1986.

Priestly Rhetoric in Sagan's Cosmos. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, Speech Communication Association, Denver, 1985

IV. PUBLIC AND UNIVERSITY SERVICEA.

Editor Search Committee, Religious Communication Association, 2012

Dissertation Award Committee, National Communication Association, 2009-10.

Chair, Nominating Committee, Religious Communication Association, 2005-6.

Chair, Editorial Search Committee, Religious Communication Association, 2005.

President, Religious Communication Association, 2004-5

First Vice President, Religious Communication Association 2003-4

Second Vice President, Religious Communication Association, 2002-3

Referee and advisor for United States Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, 1990

National Communication Association Dissertation Awards Committee, 1997-8

Franklin College Faculty Outreach Program: Presentation on the History of Conflict Between Science and Religion, presented at Piedmont College, February, 1997, St. James Methodist Church, January, 1999, Mercer University, May, 1999, Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, January, 2000, Georgia Humanists, July 2000.

Served on committee organizing a University-wide lecture series by Professor Michael J. Behe, February 1998.

Served on committee organizing a University-wide lecture series by Professor J. Budzisewski, March 1999, William Lane Craig, 2000, William Dembski, 2001.

Outside reviewer: program review of the Department of Communication at Mississippi State University, April, 1999.

B. Administrative Service

Franklin College Tenure and Promotion Committee (Social and Behavioral Sciences) 2014-present, Chair 2015, 2018, 2020.

Graduate Council, Chair of Committee on Appointments and Reappointments, 2010-2013

Director of Basic Public Speaking Course, 2009-2011, 2012-2013

Speech Communication, Chair of Search Committee, 2007, 2010-11.

Area Committee for Humanities, 2005-2008

Basic Course Director, 2000-2001.

Social & Behavioral Sciences Area Committee, 1998-2000.

Chair, 1999-2000.

Assessment of Major Committee, 1998-2002.

Graduate Coordinator, 1993-1998.

Chair of Rhetoric Committee, 1993-1994; 2005-2008, 2012-13, 2021-22.

Chair of Ad Hoc Committee to Review Doctoral Program.

Chair of Head Search Committee, 1994.

Chair of Discretionary fund Committee, 1991-94.

Departmental committee to develop and coordinate graduate student internship program.

Franklin College Program Review Committee: Classics 1994-1995.

Graduate admissions committee, Speech Communication Department, 1990-1991, 1993-1998, 1999-present.

Departmental library representative, Speech Communication Department, 1985-1989.

Personnel Committee, Speech Communication Department, 1985 -present.

Rhetoric Curriculum Committee, Speech Communication Department, 1985-present.

Interpersonal Curriculum Committee, Speech Communication Department, 1985-1988.

Departmental Library Representative,1985-1988.