

**MINDY E. FENSKE**

Speech Communication and Rhetoric Program  
Department of English  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208 mindy.fenske@gmail.com

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Speech Communication, Louisiana State University, 2001.  
M.A., Communication Studies, Arizona State University, 1995.  
B.A. English/Speech Communication, Minnesota State University-Moorhead, 1991.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Associate Professor, Department of English, Speech Communication and Rhetoric Program,  
University of South Carolina, 2008-present.  
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Speech Communication and Rhetoric Program,  
University of South Carolina, 2002-2008  
Instructor, Department of Theatre, Speech and Dance, Speech Communication Program,  
University of South Carolina, 2001.  
Instructor, Department of Communication Studies, Louisiana State University. 1999-2001.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Book Authored**

*Tattoos in American Visual Culture* (New York: Palgrave, November 2007). (Winner 2010  
National Communication Association Lilla A. Heston Award for Scholarship)

**Journals Edited**

*Text and Performance Quarterly* (2016-2018)

Special Issue Editor (with Dustin Goltz), "Performance and Rhetoric," *Text and Performance  
Quarterly* (2012-2013) Published January 2014.

**Peer Reviewed Essays**

"Movement and Resistance: (Tattooed)Bodies and Performance." *Communication and  
Critical/Cultural Studies*, 4.1 (March 2007):51-73.  
"The Movement of Interpretation: Conceptualizing Performative Encounters with  
Multimediated Performance." *Text and Performance Quarterly*, 26.2 (April 2006): 138-  
161.  
"The Aesthetic of the Unfinished: Ethics and Performance." *Text and Performance Quarterly*,  
24.1 (January 2004): 1-19. (Winner of 2005 National Communication Association  
Golden Anniversary Monograph Award)

**Book Chapters**

"Queer Assemblages." *Queer Praxis*. Ed. Dustin Goltz and Jason Zingsheim.

New York: Peter Lang, 2015. 55-66.

### Invited Essays

“Performing Publics.” *Review of Communication*, 16.1 (2016): 98-100.

“Performance Festivals as Sites for Mentoring and Undergraduate Research.” *Liminalities: A Journal of Performance Studies*, 11.4 (October 2015). Web <http://liminalities.net/11-4/mentoring.pdf>

Fenske, Mindy and Dustin Goltz. “Disciplinary Dedications and Extradisciplinary Experiences: Themes on a Relation.” (editor’s introduction to special issue) *Text and Performance Quarterly*, 34.1 (January 2014): 1-8.

“Playing The Field.” *Text and Performance Quarterly*, 33.3 (July 2013): 220-222.

### Review Essays

“Interdisciplinary Terrains of Performance Studies.” Review Essay for *Text and Performance Quarterly* 27.4 (October 2007): 351-368.

### Book Reviews

*Fates of the performative: From the linguistic turn to the new materialism*  
by Jeffrey T. Nealon. *Text and Performance Quarterly* (6 June 2022 published online)

*Bodily Arts: Rhetoric and Athletics in Ancient Greece*, by Debra Hawhee. *Philosophy and Rhetoric* 42.2 (2009).

*Sport, Rhetoric, and Gender: Historical Perspectives and Media Representations*,  
edited by Linda K. Fuller. *Rhetoric Review* 27.2 (April 2008): 206-210.

*Measuring Up: How Advertising Affects Self-Image*, by Vicky Rutledge Shields with Dawn Heinecken. *Southern Communication Journal* 68 (Fall 2002): 88-89.

### Audio

Fenske, Mindy. Presenter. *The Future of Education: Identifying Challenges and Opportunities in Pandemic Learning*. National Communication Association Virtual Public Program. April 29, 2021. (<https://natcompodcast.podbean.com/e/bonus-nca-public-program-the-future-of-education-identifying-challenges-and-opportunities-in-pandemic/>)

### Video

Fenske, Mindy. Presenter. *The Future of Education: Identifying Challenges and Opportunities in Pandemic Learning*. National Communication Association Virtual Public Program. April 29, 2021.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzjyZTrmbfw&list=PLaETCkw7w\\_Q\\_ONn0athEhhp6JgawRB\\_0I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzjyZTrmbfw&list=PLaETCkw7w_Q_ONn0athEhhp6JgawRB_0I))

### Works in Progress

*Mundane Activism: The logics and aesthetics of maintaining*. Book project investigating (through visual rhetorical criticism, performance criticism, and mystoriography/autoethnography) the aesthetics and ethics of the necessarily mundane activities of maintaining bodies, spaces, and self in the face of both

exceptional and ordinary circumstances in the contexts of maintaining health, maintaining architecture/place, and maintaining identity.

“The Politics and Aesthetics of Mundane Maintenance.” 4,000-6,000 word essay to be submitted for peer review in the special issue of *Performance Research: On the Mundane* (initial abstract proposal accepted October 21, 2022 with full essay due for peer review January 29, 2023).

## **AWARDS, HONORS, GRANTS**

### **National Scholarship**

2018 Performance Scholar of the Year, Performance Studies Division, Southern States Communication Association.

2010 Lilla A. Heston Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Interpretation and Performance Studies. National Communication Association.

2005 Golden Anniversary Monograph Award. National Communication Association.

### **National Service**

2019 Presidential Citation for Service as Chair of Research Council and member of Executive Council. National Communication Association.

2017 Citation for service as *Text and Performance Quarterly* editor. National Communication Association.

2017 Distinguished Service Award. Performance Studies Division. National Communication Association.

### **University and Department Grants**

2013-2014 USC Center for Teaching Excellence Integrative Learning Grant. Funded for \$3184.50.

College of Liberal Arts. CLASS Award. “Performative Materiality: Modifiable Bodies and the Culture of Display.” \$2142. Summer 2004. funded for \$1196.

Department of English. Summer Stipend. “Performative Materiality: Modifiable Bodies and the Culture of Display.” \$946. Summer 2004. funded. Department of English.

Department of English Summer Stipend. “Performativity and Visual Communication.” \$2,500. Summer 2003. funded

College of Liberal Arts. CLASS Award. “Performativity and Visual Communication.” Summer 2003. \$6,500.unfunded

### **University and Department Teaching**

2020 Department of English Teaching Award

2011 UofSC Mortar Board Excellence in Teaching

## SELECTED CONVENTION PARTICIPATION AND SCHOLARLY LECTURES

### Papers

- “Theorizing maintenance: aesthetics, temporality and materiality.” National Communication Association Convention, New Orleans, LA. November 2022.
- “Performing Publics.” National Communication Association Convention, Las Vegas, NV. November 2015.
- “Troping through an attentional uncommon: modes of attention.” USC Conference on Rhetorical Theory. Columbia, SC October 2015.
- “Becoming Publics.” National Communication Association Convention, Washington D.C., November 2013.
- “Jester Criticism.” USC Conference on Rhetorical Theory. Columbia, SC October 2013.
- “Becoming Publics.” USC Conference on Rhetorical Theory. Columbia, SC October 2011.
- “Assemblages of Rhythmic Bodies.” The Mountain Performance Studies Workshop and Retreat. Highlands, NC. May 2011.
- “Logics of Presence.” National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Ill, November 2009.
- “Possibilities.” Engaging Rhetorical Theory conference, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. October 2009.
- “Structures of Presence: Media, Movement, and Music.” National Communication Association Convention, San Diego, CA. November 2008.
- “Picturing Tattoos: Image, Agency, and Performance.” National Communication Association Convention, San Antonio, TX. November 2006.
- “Rosie the Riveter, The Marlboro Man, and UmJammer Lammy: Tattoos and Advertising.” National Communication Association Convention, San Antonio, TX. November 2006.
- “SkinTropes.” National Communication Association Convention, Boston, MA. November 2005.

### Performances

- A League of Their Own: Swede for the Fences* with Jason B. Munsell, University of South Carolina Aiken. Short experimental film presented at the National Communication Association Convention November 2018
- Oh, Yah, You Betcha That’s Good Lefse*. Solo Performance at the Southern States Communication Association Convention, Tampa, Fl. April 2015.
- Stop The Insanity (with no apologies to Susan Powter or Shaun T.)* Solo performance at the Southern States Association Convention, Louisville KY, April 2013.
- Green Carrot Jell-o and a Can of Cream of Mushroom Soup*. Solo performance at the National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Ill, November 2009.

*Grub* by Elyse Blackwell. Communicating Worldviews: Solo Performances of Literature. National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Ill. November 2007.  
 From Mystory to OurStory. Southern States Communication Association Convention. Baton Rouge, LA April 2005.

### **Respondent**

Love, Algorithms, and Conversation: Human Engagement with the Rhetorics of Artificial Intelligence. National Communication Association. New Orleans, LA. November 2022.

The Place of the Body and Embodiment in Critical/Cultural Communication Studies. National Communication Association. New Orleans, LA. November 2022.

Performing (with) the Digital: Applications of Digital Adaptation. Southern States Communication Association, Greenville SC. April 2022.

NCA Mid-Career Writing Retreat Scholars: Discussing Progress and advice for other Mid-Career Faculty. National Communication Association Convention. Salt Lake City, Utah. November 2018

A Process of (Non)Linear Inquiry: Adaptation, Collaboration, and Digital Media. National Communication Association Convention. Chicago, Ill. November 2014.

Partnering in Performance. Southern States Communication Association Conference. San Antonio, TX, April 2012.

Performance Studies Division Top Papers. National Communication Association Conference. New Orleans, LA, November 2011.

Performance Studies Division Competitive Papers. Southern States Communication Association Convention. Savannah, GA, April 2008.

Continuing the Conversation: Documenting Performance and Performance-Based Pedagogy. Southern States Communication Association Convention. Savannah, GA, April 2008.

Bodies in Cyberspace: Issues of (Re)Embodiment. National Communication Association Convention, Boston, MA. November 2005.

### **Panelist**

“The Fact is the Sweetest Dream that Labor Knows”: Reports and Conversations from the “Performance of Literature in the 21st Century” Working Group. National Communication Association. New Orleans, LA. November 2022.

Tattoo You Redux: Complicated Shadows. Southern States Communication Association, Greenville SC. April 2022.

Tattoo You Too. Southern States Communication Association, Frisco, TX April 2020 (conference canceled).

The NFL: A Discussion Panel on Rhetorics of Embodiment and Crisis in America’s Game. Southern States Communication Association Convention, Tampa, Fl. April 2015

The Presence(s) of Our Past(s) THE PRESENCE(S) OF OUR PAST(S)! Repetition-Yet-Again, 10, 11 ... 100 Years Later. National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Ill. November 2014.

- “It’s not about me and it isn’t for you: How Michael Bowman and Ruth Laurion Bowman taught me to make scholarship matter.” Southern States Communication Association Conference. New Orleans, LA. April 2014.
- Presenting Performance Studies at the 100th Anniversary of NCA in 2014. National Communication Association Convention, Washington D.C. November 2013.
- Imagining and Doing Presence in the Communication Present. National Communication Association Convention, Washington D.C. November 2013.
- Voicing the Digital Humanities: A Brainstorm. National Communication Association Convention, New Orleans, LA, November 2011.
- Relationships and Community in the Digital Age: Interdisciplinary Perspectives. Southern States Communication Association Annual Convention, Louisville, KY. April 2007.
- Documenting and Evaluating Creative Work: A Follow-up to the NCA Pre-Conference. Western States Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA. February 2007.

### **Invited Lecture**

- “Becoming Publics: Communal Agency in an Age of Disaffiliation.” University of North Texas, March 8, 2016.

## **SCHOLARLY EXHIBITS AND PERFORMANCES**

### **Directing**

- Director, writer, compiler and adapter. *genHERations*. Columbia College, October 28 and 29, 2004.
- Director, writer, compiler, adapter, and performer. *Storyspace: staging hypertextual narrative*. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, February 1999.

### **Dramaturgy**

- Dramaturg and Creative Consultant. *Dark Berries*. One-person show compiled, written and performed by Karen Smith. University of South Carolina, Columbia, October 2002.
- Dramaturg and Creative Consultant. *Walk Don’t Walk*. One-person show compiled and performed by Jackie Coleman. Directed by Jerry Winters. University of South Carolina, Columbia, August 2002.
- Dramaturg. *Bee-Luther-Hatchee*. By Thomas Gibbons. Directed by David Wiles. University of South Carolina, Columbia, February 2002.

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- Executive Committee, National Communication Association (2017-2019)
- Chair, National Communication Association Research Council (2017-2019)
- Associate Editor. *Text and Performance Quarterly* (2002-present)

Associate Editor. *Liminalities* (2005-present)  
Conference Co-organizer, Critical Performance Dialogues. DePaul University (2016)  
Conference Co-Organizer, Uof SC Conference on Rhetorical Theory, University of South Carolina (2009- 2015)  
Editor-Elect, *Text and Performance Quarterly* (2015)  
Board member. National Review Board. Performance Studies Division. National Communication Association (2008-present)  
Book Review Editor. *Text and Performance Quarterly* (2010-2012)  
Manuscript Reviewer. *Quarterly Journal of Speech* (2013)  
Manuscript Reviewer. *Philosophy and Rhetoric* (2013)  
Manuscript Reviewer. *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* (2011)  
Manuscript Reviewer. *Theatre Annual* (2007-2009)  
Co-organizer. Documenting and Evaluating Creative Work. 2006 NCA Performance Studies division pre-convention conference.  
Group Leader at Petit Jean Performance Festival. Petit Jean, Arkansas (1996 & 1999).  
Lab Leader and Lecturer for University of Nebraska's Summer Speech Escape (1996 & 1997).

## **TEACHING**

### **Awards**

2020 USC Department of English Teaching Award  
2011 USC Mortar Board Excellence in Teaching

### **Courses Taught (since 2001)**

#### *Undergraduate*

Public Communication  
Online Public Communication  
Popular Communication and Public Culture  
Business and Professional Speaking  
Argumentation and Debate  
Small Group Communication  
Literature and Performance  
Arguments in Cultural Studies  
Television Criticism  
Sporting Images

#### *Graduate*

Issues and Methods in Speech Communication  
Performance and Cultural Studies  
Theorizing Audiences, Crowds, and Publics: Performance and Rhetoric

The Rhetoric of Performance Texts

Performance Studies in Communication: Performing Criticism, Criticizing Performance

### **Graduate Committees**

*Ph.D.*

Co-Director (with Byron Hawk) Anthony Stagliano (2015)

Member, Brian Harmon (2023)

Member, Ben Harley (2018)

Member, Alana Hatley (2018)

*MA*

Jade Huell (2008)

Allison Khader (2006)

### **Undergraduate Advising**

*Honors Thesis*

Andrew Zolides (2010)

Christopher Coyle (2004)

*Magellan Scholar Mentor*

Jason Spiro and Joshua Driscoll (2009)

### **SERVICE**

#### **National**

*Administrative*

Executive Council, National Communication Association (2017-2019)

Chair, Research Council, National Communication Association (2017-2019)

Chair-elect, Research Council, National Communication Association (2016)

Chair, Performance Studies Division (PSD), National Communication Association (2011)

Vice-Chair, PSD, National Communication Association (2010)

Vice Chair-elect, PSD, National Communication Association (2009)

*Governance*

Legislative Assembly, National Communication Association (2011-2019)

*Committees*

Chair, Woolbert Award Committee, National Communication Association (2017-2019)

Doctoral Education Committee, National Communication Association (2017-2019)

Research Council, National Communication Association (2013-2015)

Woolbert Award Committee, National Communication Association (2013-2015)

Nominating Committee, National Communication Association (2011-2013)

Chair, Lilla Heston Awards Committee, National Communication Association (2012)



Lilla Heston Awards Committee. National Communication Association (2010-2011)  
 Tenure and Promotion Guidelines Committee, PSD. National Communication Association (2007-2010)  
 Publications Chair and Executive Board, PSD National Communication Association (2003-2006)  
 Co-Chair. Pre-Conference Committee, PSD National Communication Association (2005-2006)  
 Research Committee, PSD. NCA (2001-2004)  
 Secretary. PSD. Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) (2002-2003)  
 Chair. Pre-conference Committee, PSD. SSCA (2002-2003)

### **University**

Vice-President. USC Columbia AAUP chapter (2023-2024)  
 Board of Directors. USC-Columbia AAUP chapter (Fall 2022)  
 Co-Chair, Budget Transparency Campaign Committee, USC-Columbia AAUP chapter (Fall 2022)  
 Member, Budget Transparency Campaign Committee, USC-Columbia AAUP chapter (2022)  
 Senator, Faculty Senate at USC-Columbia (Fall 2022, 2023-2025)  
 Chair, Carolina Core CMS Committee (2016-2019)  
 USC-Sumter Speech Communication Search Committee. USC-Sumter (2014-2015)  
 USC-Sumter Speech Communication Search Committee. USC-Sumter (2005-2006)  
 University Committee on Academic Responsibility, University of South Carolina (2002-2004)

### **Departmental (Department of English)**

#### *Administrative*

Director, Public Communication, Speech Communication and Rhetoric Program (2012-2015)

#### *Governance*

Faculty Advisory Committee (Ex-Officio 2013-2015, Elected Fall 2016, Elected Spring 2022, Elected Fall 2023)

#### *Committees*

Tenure and Promotion Secretarial Committee (2012-2014, 2021-2023)  
 Annual Review Committee (Spring 2022)  
 Speech Communication Instructor Search Committee (Spring 2022)  
 Teaching Committee (2011-2012, 2015-2016, 2018-2020)  
 Speech Communication and Rhetoric Committee (2018-present)  
 Speech Communication Search Committee (2) (2012-2013)  
 18<sup>th</sup> Century Literature and Digital Humanities Search Committee (2011-2012)  
 Speakers Committee (2011-2012)  
 Chair, Job Placement Committee (2008-2010)

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

National Communication Association, 1995-present.  
 Southern States Communication Association, 1996-present.

Western States Communication Association 2007.  
Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA), 1998.  
National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA), 1995-1996.  
Pi Kappa Delta Speech Fraternity, 1989-1991.