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Vita

Gabriel L. Adkins

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Personal Information

Born: June 12, 1974, Mountainview, CA

Education

B.A., Speech, 1996, Ottawa University, Ottawa, KS

M.S., Human Resource Development, 2002, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS

Graduate Dean's Scholastic Honors, Pittsburg State University, 2002

M.A., Communication Studies, 2005, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS

Currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Communication Studies at the University of Oklahoma

Association Memberships

Pi Kappa Delta, Alpha Chapter Recruiter, Ottawa University, 1994-95

Pi Kappa Delta, Special Distinction, Ottawa University, 1995

Pi Kappa Delta, Alpha Chapter President, Ottawa University, 1995-96

Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society, Pittsburg State University, 2003

Society for Human Resource Development, student member, Wichita, KS, 2003-2005

American Society for Training and Development, student member, Wichita, KS, 2003-2005

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Professional Experience

Student Coach, Debate/ Forensics Team, Ottawa University, 1995-96

I was responsible for all aspects of debate and forensics team, including coaching, travel planning, tournament hosting (prepared and hosted one major tournament), and financial decisions. Lead an active team of 10-15 team members.

Assistant Customer Service Manager, Venture Stores, 1996-1997

I was responsible for all aspects of customer service activities; including front-end scheduling and management, monetary management, and overall store appearance.

Management Assistant, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, 1998-2000

I was responsible for the establishment of two new branch offices in Augusta, KS and El Dorado, KS. I created and implemented all marketing efforts, etc. for the office. I also managed both new offices and oversaw growth of rental car fleet demand by over 200% at each office managed. I was also consistently ranked among the top 10% of representatives in region in terms of customer satisfaction, sales accruals, and fleet management.

Recruiter/Advisor, Southwestern College Professional Studies, 2000-2005

I am currently serving in this position. Responsibilities include management of recruitment efforts, launching of new educational programs, and assisting in visioning and success measurement for division of college. I also am currently serving as primary advisor for over 200 adult learners, including tracking of paperwork, degree planning, and other academic advising issues. Some of my major accomplishments in this position include marketplace assessments of Kansas City and Oklahoma City educational environments (which has lead to the opening of our newest location in Oklahoma City); leadership roles assumed in preparation for the North Central Accreditation Site Review and application for the Kansas Award for Excellence; development of designs for both a prospect tracking database system (which is in use currently) and our current website (contributions include page layout, student services functions, and site mapping matrices); as well as the development of the college's first military installation (McConnell Air Force Base), which I managed as a one-person office from 2003-2004, during which time the learner representation on base was increased from approximately 30 learners to over 250 active adult military learners.

Affiliate Instructor, Southwestern College Professional Studies, 2002-2005

I served the college regularly as an adjunct instructor for various courses; please see the section on teaching experience for further detailed information.

Research Interests

I have a very broad range of interests in the field of communication, including rhetorical studies, organizational communication, interpersonal and small group communication, communication and technology studies, and the study of public relations communication. More particularly, I am interested in the study of organizational rhetoric and communication (both internal and external) and interpersonal communication theories. My most recent studies have explored areas of apologia criticism and critical lens design as applied to apologia campaigns, and organizational learning from crisis communication situations.

Current Research

One of my areas of current research is in the area of apologia criticism and critical theory for apologia campaigns. I have completed a paper creating a theoretical basis for both organizational apologia management and apologia criticism using the principles found in Sun Tzu's *The Art of War*, and am planning the continuation of this work.

Another area of current research is in organizational change management, and I have developed and am currently conducting tests of a new model for understanding how message framing impacts employee perceptions of organizational change efforts. I anticipate that this study will be completed during the early summer of 2006 and will then be submitted for publication soon thereafter.

A third ongoing research project involves study of the implications for technology on human communications. Specifically, I am in the beginning phases of a project that forms a critical, theoretically based response to Ray Kurzweil's book *The Singularity is Near: When Humans Transcend Biology*. It is anticipated that the initial research paper will be prepared to submit for publication during the summer of 2006, and that additional research in this area will result in a co-authored book.

I am very open to exploring any aspect of organizational, public relations, or technology communication in my future research efforts. I believe that these fields within the communication discipline are ones in which there is much potential for growth and new theory development. It is my hope that I can contribute meaningfully to the expansion and increased recognition of the communication discipline through exploration of the practical application of scholarly theories in the daily routine of modern organizational life.

Teaching Experience

University of Oklahoma:

Graduate Teaching Assistant- Communications Department

Currently the instructor of record for two 3-credit hour courses per semester (Fall, Spring). Fall 2005 teaching schedule consisted of two sections of COMM 2613: Public Speaking. Spring 2006 teaching load also consists of two sections of this same course.

Southwestern College:

HRD210: Entrance Seminar (an orientation class for returning adult learners)

1 credit hour per section, have taught multiple sections (approximately 8-10 per year) since 2001. Subjects covered include college orientation, study skills development, various self-assessments, and use of online resources for student services, research, etc.

BUS337: Business Ethics

3 credit hours per section, have taught one full section of the course and have also performed as a substitute instructor on several occasions. Subjects covered include organizational ethics, ethical theories, and managerial ethics as taught from a case study perspective.

BQM427: Professional Communications and Presentations

3 credit hours per section, have taught multiple sections (approximately 6-8 per year) since 2002. Subjects covered include public speaking skills, interpersonal and small group communication techniques, organizational communication theories, use of technology in presentations, persuasion, argumentation and debate, and apologia criticism.

Butler Community College

SP100: Public Speaking

3 credit hours per section, taught two sections during the 2006 summer semester. Subjects covered included public speaking skills, apologia criticism, group communication skills, and debate.

SP102: Interpersonal Communication

3 credit hours per section, taught one section during the 2006 summer semester. Subjects covered included interpersonal communication theory, applied criticism of interpersonal communication, and small group communication principles.

In addition to these courses taught, I am also prepared through my educational background to teach any courses in the following subject areas as an adjunct faculty member:

- Public Speaking
- Organizational Communication
- Public Relations Communication
- Communication and Technology
- Communication/Business Ethics
- Apologia/Strategic Communication
- Human Resource Development Coursework
- Organizational Leadership/Behavior
- Organizational Assessment, Development, and Change Management
- Introductory Rhetorical Theory
- Introductory Quantitative Research Methods