

Dr. Tim Borchers
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Peru State College (Peru, NE)

Education

PhD Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, May 1996

Major: Rhetorical Theory

Minor: Political Science

Dissertation: "The Symbolic Construction of Allegations of Political Corruption in Case Studies of Presidents Nixon, Carter, Reagan, and Clinton"

MA Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, May 1993

Major: Communication Generalist

Essay: "Clarence Thomas Versus Anita Hill: Locating Stases in Senate Argument"

BA University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE, May 1991

Major: Speech Communication

Minors: English, Political Science, and History

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Professional Experience

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Peru State College, Peru, NE

July 2015 - present

The Vice President for Academic Affairs is the chief academic officer, responsible for working closely with the Deans and administrators, faculty, staff, and students. The position is responsible for determining and implementing policy as it relates to academics, curriculum, distance education and off campus operations, Library services, and Student Records. The position recommends personnel decisions to the President, including comprehensive annual evaluations for existing personnel, hiring and promotion, and makes recommendations for promotion, tenure, retention, and dismissal. The VPAA recommends academic program resource allocations, including budget and personnel. During my term, I have also provided interim leadership to the School of Professional Studies and School of Arts and Sciences. Peru State College, the oldest college in Nebraska, is an open-enrollment, public institution with an annual enrollment of 2,000 students, including campus, online, graduate and dual enrollment.

Significant accomplishments include:

- Achieved the highest first year retention rate in the past 30 years, working with key staff in Academic Affairs and Student Affairs.
- Implemented Strategic Enrollment Management plan, which has led to 2 of the largest first year student classes in the past 30 years and has included several new academic programs.
- Served as key academic liaison for construction projects involving the renovation of the Performing Arts Center and Criminal Justice Engaged Learning Center.
- Led assessment of academic programs and general education program while providing support to student affairs assessment efforts.
- Developed key metrics and data-informed practices to build a culture of effectiveness at the College, including enrollment and credit hour monitoring reports.

- Initiated the Research and Creativity Expo which features students showcasing their scholarly and creative work in a public setting.
- Supported key partnerships with Archer Education, Educational Service Unit #4, and the Nebraska Department of Corrections Services.
- Led accreditation work in preparation for successful March 2022 Higher Learning Commission visit.
- Created the Peru Academic Liaison (PAL) program to front-load support to new students during the first half of the fall semester.
- Supported the use of “high impact practices” to foster higher levels of student engagement and learning, including promoting student research, internships, study abroad, and honors programming.
- Led review of our general education requirements to include outcomes specifically focused on cultural literacy and competency.
- Leading our Equity in Retention Planning process that involves subcommittees working to enhance Inclusive Learning, Inclusive Campus Community, and supporting students’ sense of Belonging, Self-Efficacy, and Motivation, based on Tinto’s model.
- Served on Master Planning Committee to develop the institution’s 10-year facility improvement plan.
- Serving on a System-wide task force reviewing System policies and procedures to ensure they serve all students equitably.

Dean, College of Arts, Media and Communication, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN

May 2008 – June 2015

The Dean serves as the managerial representative of the University administration in the direct supervision of academic departments, faculty, and support staff. As Dean, I led efforts to secure space, equipment, and other resources necessary to support faculty and academic programming. The Dean determines and administers staffing budgets, including adjunct and overload instruction budgets. The Dean administers all personnel matters, including the recruitment, selection, coaching, mentoring, and evaluation of faculty in the College, in accordance with bargaining agreement and Board Policy. Minnesota State University Moorhead is a regional comprehensive university that enrolls approximately 5,000 students.

Significant accomplishments included:

- Managed a budget of more than \$10 million.
- Fostered partnership with Forum Communications to implement \$1 million donation to develop applied learning opportunities with the Fargo Forum newspaper.
- Engaged alumni and patrons in fundraising and sponsorship opportunities.
- Led efforts to expand student recruitment.
- Served the University on numerous committees, task forces, and special projects, including general education reform, assessment, and accreditation.
- Led College through reorganization from Arts and Humanities to Arts, Media and Communication.

Communication Studies Department Founding Chair, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN

July 2007 – May 2008

Following a two-year term as Associate Dean, I returned to teaching and served as Chair of the newly formed Communication Studies Department. The position scheduled courses, facilitated curriculum changes, and recruiting faculty and students. After a Spring 2008 sabbatical, my term as chair was cut short when I assumed the Interim Dean position in May 2008 which would eventually lead to a permanent appointment.

Significant accomplishments included:

- Developing policies and procedures for a new department.
- Successfully achieving the Interim Dean of Arts and Humanities position.

Associate Dean, College of Arts and Humanities and College of Social and Natural Sciences, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN

July 2005 – June 2007

I was appointed to serve as Associate Dean for two Colleges as the University prepared for its Higher Learning Commission (HLC) affirmation of accreditation visit. The visit was successful, with no follow up reports or visits required. The position carried additional responsibilities, such as recruitment and student relations.

Significant accomplishments included:

- Led assessment of student learning processes.
- Co-chaired HLC criterion committee, edited final report and served as liaison to the peer review team during the visit.
- Led recruitment efforts for two Colleges.
- Initiated and supported fundraising activities.

Faculty, Communication Studies, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN

August 1996 – June 2005

I was hired as Assistant Professor in 1996 and served as Director of Forensics from 1996-2000. I was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor in 2001 and promoted to Professor in 2005. I served on numerous faculty committees including the Academic Policy Advisory Committee and the Lead Faculty Group for technology. I attended conventions, published two books, and performed other customary faculty duties, such as advising and mentoring student research.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

August 1991 – June 1996

As a graduate teaching assistant, I maintained a teaching load while also coaching the university's speech team, attending national conventions, performing department service, and conducting scholarly activities.

System-Level Service Activities

- Member, Nebraska State Colleges Student Success Task Force, 2022-present
- Member, Nebraska State Colleges NASH Network Improvement Communities (NIC), 2022-present
- Member, Nebraska State Colleges Risk Management Committee, 2016-2019

- “Organizational Capability” Team Member, Charting the Future, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, 2012-2014

Significant Professional Development Experiences

- John Gardner Institute Equity in Retention Academy, 2022
- Inclusive Communities Training, Peru State College, 2021
- New Provosts Workshop, American Association of State Colleges and Universities, 2016
- High Impact Practices Institute, Association of American Colleges and Universities, 2016
- Executive Leadership Training Program, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, 2013-14
- Luoma Leadership Academy, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, 2009-2010
- New Deans Training, Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences, 2008

Awards and Honors

- Academic Affairs Excellence Award for Service to University, Minnesota State University Moorhead, 2007
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Minnesota State University Moorhead, 2005
- Academic Affairs Excellence Award for Service to University, Minnesota State University Moorhead 2003
- Jeanne Findlater Graduate Student Teaching Award, Department of Communication, Wayne State University, 1996
- Graduate Student Service Award, Department of Communication, Wayne State University, 1996
- Graduate Student Research Award, Department of Communication, Wayne State University, 1995

Courses Taught

- Public Speaking
- Persuasion
- Argumentation
- Communication Theory
- Rhetorical Theory and Criticism
- Rhetoric in Popular Culture
- First Year Experience
- Political Campaign Communication
- Persuasive Campaigns
- Advanced Oral Interpretation
- Small Group Communication
- Advanced Public Speaking
- Rhetorical Theory
- Business and Professional Communication
- Mentorship
- Communication Research Methods
- Communication, Culture, and Technology
- Intercultural Communication
- Senior Seminar
- Rhetorical Criticism
- Introduction to Leadership

Books Authored

- Borchers, Timothy A. *Persuasion in the Media Age*, 4th edition. Long Grove, IL: Waveland, 2022.
- Borchers, Timothy A. and Hundley, Heather. *Rhetorical Theory: An Introduction*, 2nd edition. Long Grove, IL: Waveland, 2018.

Book Chapters and Appendices

- Borchers, Timothy A. "Speaking in Small Groups." *Invitation to Public Speaking*. Cindy L. Griffin. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Thomson, 2003.
- Kay, Jack and Timothy A. Borchers. "Researching Through the Internet." *The Speechmaking Process*. Raymond S. Ross. Needham Heights: Allyn and Bacon, 1997.
- Kay, Jack, and Timothy A. Borchers. "Children in a Sandbox: An Argument for Public Ownership of Debates." *Focus on the 1992 Presidential Debates*. Diana Carlin, ed. New York: Praeger, 1994.

Other Textbook Contributions

- Borchers, Timothy A. Technology contributor. *Invitation to Public Speaking*. Cindy L. Griffin. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Thomson, 2003.

Refereed Articles

- Aden, Roger C., Timothy A. Borchers, Amy Grim Buxbaum, Kirstin Cronn-Mills, Shannon D Natalie J. Dollar, Innes Mitchell, and Alena Amato Ruggerio. "Communities of Cornhuskers: The Generation of Place Through Sports Fans' Rituals." *Qualitative Research Reports Communication*, 10 (2009): 26-37.
- Borchers, Timothy A. "Judging Philosophies as a Concern of the Director of Forensics." *Southern Journal of Forensics*. 2 (Fall 1997): 256-261.
- Borchers, Timothy A. "Future Directions in Individual Events: Aligning Theory and Practice." *Journal of Forensics*. 2 (Summer 1997): 125-133.
- Minch, Kevin and Timothy A. Borchers. "A Philosophy for Judging NFA Lincoln-Douglas Debate," *National Forensic Journal* 14.2 (1996): 19-36.
- Borchers, Timothy A. "Blending the Comic and the Tragic: Bill Clinton's Debate Rhetoric." *Arkansas Journal of Communication Studies* 12 (Fall 1993): 21-28.
- Kay, Jack, Timothy A. Borchers, and Susanne L. Williams. "Comedy Clubs and Gridiron Nights: Prescriptions from Real World Analogues." *Argumentation and Advocacy*. 28 (1992)

Invited Publications

- Borchers, Timothy A. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 78, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of School Associations, 2004.
- Borchers, Timothy A. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 77, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of School Associations, 2003.
- Borchers, Timothy A. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 76, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of School Associations, 2002.
- Borchers, Timothy A. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 75, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of School Associations, 2001.
- Borchers, Timothy A. and Susanne L. Williams. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 74, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of State High School Associations, 2000.
- Borchers, Timothy A. and Susanne L. Williams. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 73, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of State High School Associations, 1999.

- Borchers, Timothy A. and Susanne L. Williams. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 72, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of State High School Associations, 1998.
- Borchers, Timothy A. *Humor in Competitive Speaking Events*. Kansas City: National Federation of State High School Associations, 1997.
- Borchers, Timothy A. "The Challenge of Computer-Mediated Forensics: Introduction." *The Forensic Educator* 11.2 (1996/97): 5.
- Borchers, Timothy A. "Accessing the Internet." *The Forensic Educator* 11.2 (1996/97): 6-7.
- Borchers, Timothy A. and Susanne L. Williams. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol 71, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of State High School Associations, 1997.
- Borchers, Timothy A. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol. 70, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of State School Associations, 1996.
- Borchers, Timothy A., and Brian Lain. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol. 69, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federation of State High School Associations, 1995.
- Kay, Jack and Timothy A. Borchers. "Cyberforensics 2001: Use and Abuse of Computer-Assisted Forensics." *Forensic Educator* 9.1 (1994): 21-23.
- Borchers, Timothy A., Susanne Williams, and Dan Bloomingdale. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol. 68*. Kansas City: National Federation of State High School Associations, 1994.
- Borchers, Timothy A. "Resources Concerning the Value of Forensics." *Forensic Educator* 8.1, 25-27.
- Warner, Ede, Patrice Arend, and Timothy A. Borchers. *Forensic Quarterly: Vol. 67, No. 2*. Kansas City: National Federal of State High School Associations, 1993.

Convention Papers/Presentations

- "Holistic Data Approach to Improving the First-Year Student Success." Featured presentation at the Association of Institutional Research Convention, May 25, 2021, virtual, with Kristin Buscher and Susanne Williams.
- "Student Success Initiatives at MSU Moorhead." Presentation at the Academic and Student AI Leadership Conference, October 24, 2014, Brainerd, MN, with Denise Gorsline and Hannah Severtson.
- "Fulfilling Our Promise: Shifting Assessment Culture from Compliance to Commitment." Presentation at the Higher Learning Commission Annual Convention, April 11, 2014, Chicago, IL, with Jeremy Page and Stacy Voeller.
- "An Institution-Wide Approach to Assessment." Presentation at the MnSCU ASA Leadership June 4, 2013, Bloomington, MN, with Ginny Bair, Denise Gorsline and Michelle Mallot.
- "Taking Leadership Risks in Uncertain Times." Paper presented at the Chair Academy Interna Convention, March 16, 2010, Bloomington, MN, with Jeffrey Judge, Kerry Keenan, and Ka Vang.
- "Reaching Out, Reaching In, and Running for Cover: Administering the Online Basic Course," presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Nov. 23, 2003, Mi
- "Technology, Public Speaking, and Public Dialogue." Paper presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Nov. 23, 2002, New Orleans, LA.
- "A Response to Burnett, Brand, and Meister." Paper presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Nov. 3, 2001, Atlanta, GA.
- "Netsurfers for Nebraska: A Virtual Community of Online Husker Fans." Paper presented at the Communication Association Convention, Nov. 9, 2000, Seattle, WA.

Invited Presentations

- "The Dynamics of Persuasion," Northwestern University Qatar, Sept. 14, 2021.