

Katherine C. Irwin

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Aug. 2024

## BACKGROUND

### Education

Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, M.A., Communication, August 2009

Thesis: "Gender Bias Against Sarah Palin: A Content Analysis of National Newspapers"

Committee: Dr. Seihill Kim (chair), Dr. Margaret Fitch-Hauser, Dr. John Carvalho

Texas A&M University in College Station, B.A., Journalism, minor in Spanish, May 1991

### Experience:

#### A. Academic:

Lecturer of Communication, Department of Communication and Theatre

Auburn University Montgomery, Montgomery, AL August 1, 2019 – present

Courses taught: COMM 2914: Journalism Practicum, COMM 2743: Media Writing II, COMM 3820: Media Law & Ethics, COMM 3843: Writing for Public Relations, COMM 3743: Advanced Media Writing-Environmental and Agricultural reporting, COMM 3743: Advanced Media Writing, COMM 2793: Advanced Media Writing (Dynamics of Media Writing- News & PR), COMM 3753: Advertising Media, COMM 3020: Visual Communication, COMM 2763: Digital Audio Production, COMM 2100: Media and Culture, COMM 2212: Public Speaking, COMM 1010: Introduction to Human Communication

Lecturer of Communication, one-year appointment, Department of Communication

Columbus State University, Columbus, Georgia August 2018 – May 2019

Courses taught: COMM 3141: Intro. to Public Relations, COMM 1110: Communication & Public Speaking

Adjunct Speech Instructor, Department of Language Arts

Southern Union State Community College, Opelika, AL January 2010 – December 2020

Courses taught: Speech 106: Intro. to Human Communication (campus, hybrid)

Speech 107: Fundamentals of Public Speaking (campus, online)

Business Communication Instructor, Raymond J. Harbert College of Business

Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

January 2015 – December 2019

Courses taught: BUSI 2100: Oral Communication for Business (hybrid, 200 students);

BUSI 2103: Oral Communication for Business (online, 200 students)

Adjunct Online Communication Instructor, Department of Communication and Theatre

Auburn University Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama

January 2013 – May 2018

Courses taught: COMM 1010 online

Adjunct Speech Instructor, Department of Humanities

Chattahoochee Valley Community College, Phenix City, Alabama

January 2014 – August 2018

Courses taught: SPH 106 Human Communication, SPH 107 Public Speaking

Adjunct Speech Instructor, Department of Humanities  
University of Phoenix, Columbus, Georgia  
April 2012 – August 2012  
Courses taught: HUM 176: Media and American Culture (campus)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, School of Communication and Journalism  
Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama  
January 2007-May 2007  
GTA for COMM 1000: Foundations of Public Speaking; worked camera equipment for recording student speeches

Teaching & Research Interests:  
Community news and public address; audio production, sound reporting, podcasting for audio documentation; writing for journalism and public relations; investigative reporting; listening responses to controversial popular music; vernacular blues music

### **Other professional**

Freelance writer for Collider.com (April 2022 – Jan. 2023) wrote listicle articles about movies and TV shows under the name Kate

Guest Instructor, City of Auburn, Human Resources Department  
Created and taught a Communication and public speaking course for city employees, ranging from detectives to accountants to recreation leaders  
(June-July 2017, November 2017, November 2018)

Part-time Morning Radio News Director, Qantum Communication Radio (now iHeart radio), Opelika, Alabama  
Wrote and reported live and recorded morning news for Kicker FM 97.7 and Mix 96.7  
Interviewed community & business leaders for weekly community show, used Adobe Audition for recording and editing  
(January 2013 – October 2013)

Kindergarten Aide, Indian Pines Country Day School, Auburn, Alabama  
Assisted in teaching students reading, writing, math, art and social development  
Worked here during graduate school and when I was an adjunct college instructor  
Designed, developed and maintained school website, [www.ipcds.org](http://www.ipcds.org) using Adobe Dreamweaver  
(September 2008 – May 2012)

Columnist for *OA News Dollars & Sense* Weekly Publication  
Opelika/Auburn News, Opelika, Alabama  
Came up with topics and write a weekly column for the realtor publication insert  
(February-December 2008)

Part-time Production Assistant, IPOV (Interactive Point of View), Auburn, Alabama  
Produced video /voiceovers for small business owned by Mustafa "Vic" Uzumeri  
(August 2001 – 2002)

Freelance Website Developer, R Weaver Apiaries, Navasota, Texas  
Designed, developed and maintained this business website (webpages, order forms and photographic history dating back to 1888 for the Weaver family)  
(1998 – 2001)

Graphic Designer, Illustrator, National Science Foundation's Ocean Drilling Program, Publications Dept. at Texas A&M University  
Created artwork for scientific exploration archival quality publications; fliers, VHS cover, booklet website development (Adobe Applications and expert trained in Photoshop); Lead Illustrator for three Scientific Leg Publications  
(1995 – 1997)

Assistant Marketing Manager, OMC Industries, Inc., Bryan, Texas  
Created and edited marketing and public relations content (using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop) for advertisement, trade shows, and customer ordering; traveled to trade shows in Boston, MA; Houston, TX and Long Beach, CA  
(1994 – 1995)

Newspaper Feature Writer and Photographer, *The Navasota Examiner*  
Navasota, Texas  
Covered and wrote feature and news articles for the town and Grimes County  
(1994 – 1997)

Radio board operator for NPR and community radio station affiliate, KMBV-Navasota, Bryan College, Navasota, Texas  
Operated the radio board broadcasting the NPR show Earth and Sky  
Produced and hosted a weekly radio show named the Brazos Valley View, interviewed musicians, politicians, and community leaders (some saved recordings)  
(1994 – 1997)

Assistant Store Manager of women's clothes boutique (my mother's store)  
CJ's of Las Colinas, Irving, Texas  
Assisted in running my family's small boutique, including going to the Dallas Apparel Mart four times a year to choose clothing; purchase, receive, sell merchandise  
(1993-1994)

Daily Print Newspaper Police Reporter and Feature Writer  
*Conroe Courier*, Conroe, Texas  
Kept up with the police scanner's announcements of crimes, accidents, and police reports; was the liaison between newspaper and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department, Narcotics Task Force, along with the local Police Stations (Conroe, Willis, Cut n Shoot). Investigative stories included homicide, accidents, school board meetings, prisoners, local politicians and community events; wrote feature articles, such as a profile of a Pearl Harbor WWII veteran and a 93-year old gardener  
(1991-1992)

Daily Print Student Newspaper Reporter and Feature Writer  
*The Battalion*, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Reported on campus news, student activities, and campus guest speakers and wrote news articles for the daily student run newspaper (1989-1991)

Summer Intern, CBS News Dallas Bureau (Wayne Nelson, Bureau Chief)  
Studios of Las Colinas, Irving, Texas  
Called Texas affiliates for news stories, rode with camera crew to news happenings in Dallas and got to report over the phone to Harry Smith happenings in Dallas.  
(Summer 1988)

## **AUDIO PRODUCTION & MEDIA WRITING SKILLS**

Media writing- interviewing, reporting, writing, editing and photography  
Radio broadcast – in-studio and remote community news and events, interviewing and DJ  
Podcasting- interviewing, writing scripts, recording, editing, mixing and publishing  
DAW- including Audacity, Adobe Audition, ProTools  
Adobe Creative Suite- Audition, Premiere, Illustrator, Photoshop, Express, In-Design  
Berkeley Advanced Media Institute Certification- Podcasting: Telling Stories in Sound. (Sept.- Oct. 2020)

## **GRANTS, CONFERENCES & RESEARCH**

### **Grant Awards**

HHMI Faculty Fellow funding for course redesign and workshop attendance- \$1,500  
Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama

Alabama Press Association - A \$4,000 grant (awarded August 2024); will use for the 2024 Departmental Summer Journalism Media Workshop, specifically Audio and Video Storytelling. This includes local media tours and media writing, audio, and video production workshops. Department of Communication and Theatre, Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama

Alabama Press Association - A \$4,000 grant (awarded August 2022) was used for a 2023 Departmental Summer Journalism Media Workshop, specifically Audio and Video Storytelling. This includes local media tours and media writing, audio, and video production workshops. Department of Communication and Theatre, Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama

IRB Research - A \$500 grant (awarded October 2019) was used for the Listening Responses to Politically Incorrect Popular Music online survey and reward for participants). Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama

Sarah A. Bronczek Fund for Excellence \$1,000 award (awarded Spring 2009 during graduate school) was used to travel, attend and present a paper at the PCA National Conference in New Orleans, LA  
School of Communication & Journalism, Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

### **Conferences**

Irwin, K.C. (2023, August 9). Analyzing listening responses to Randy Newman's 1977 controversial

song “Short People” amidst modern call-out culture. Poster presented in the Cultural and Critical Studies Division (CCSD) at the [Association for Education of Journalism and Mass Communication \(AEJMC\) annual national conference in Washington D.C.](#)

Irwin, K.C. (2020, March 20). Listening responses to ‘Baby, It’s Cold Outside’ given the #MeToo movement. GIFT was presented virtually through Zoom at the Association for Education of Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Southeast Colloquium. Memphis, TN.

Irwin, K. C., DuBose, B., & Kim, S.-H. (2009, November). Gender bias in news media: A content analysis of Sarah Palin and Joseph Biden in newspapers. Paper presented by Kim at the [annual convention of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research \(MAPOR\)](#), Chicago, IL. (Invited talk/presentation and Dr. Kim attended)

Irwin, K. C. (2009, April). Two definitive opposing gender archetypes. Paper presented and session moderator at the [National Convention of the Popular Culture Association \(PCA\)](#) in New Orleans, LA.

Attended- Broadcast Education Association (BEA) virtual conference (April 2022) including sessions on media, radio, sound engineering, and a podcasting forum with Dr. Siobhan McHugh, professor and author of the 2022 podcasting book: *The Power of Podcasting: Telling stories through sound*.

Attended- Broadcast Education Association (BEA) Festival of Media Arts virtual award announcement (Feb. 2022) of faculty and student media awards. My student Macio Malone was nationally second place for sound engineering for his audio production “To My First Born.”

BEA Festival of Arts faculty judge (Dec. 2021, Dec. 2022, Dec. 2023, Dec. 2024) for student audio competitions including the PSA/Promo/Commercial and the Specialty Program. Jeffrey Schiffman was chair of the festival student audio competition.

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) paper reviewer for the open division of the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium in Memphis. Dr. Thomas Hrach was the chair.

BEA conference paper reviewer (Jan. 2022). Kim Fox was the paper reviewer chair.

## Research

Irwin, K.C. (in progress). Analyzing listening responses to Randy Newman’s 1977 controversial song “Short People” amidst modern call-out culture [Editing manuscript for journal submission].

Irwin, K.C. (in progress). Collected 265 responses from an experimental online survey conducted at AUM about listening reactions to controversial popular music. Songs used for analysis include: “Short People” by Randy Newman (1977); “Baby, It’s Cold Outside” by Frank Loesser (1944), and “m.A.A.d. City” (2012) by Kendrick Lamar.

Irwin, KC (in progress). Lost interviews from small-town Texas radio: Glen Alyn’s redemptive stories of blues songster Mance Lipscomb [Editing manuscript for journal submission].

Irwin, K.C. (in progress). In July 2021 I interviewed Chris Strachwitz, founder of Arhoolie

Records about Texas Songster Mance Lipscomb and Alabama Blues singer Big Mama Thornton. In the summer of 1996 I interviewed (for a radio community show) Glen Alyn, author of Lipscomb's autobiography *I Say Me For a Parable*. I am researching these Black vernacular blues musicians of the mid-twentieth century who, in my opinion, were marginalized by radio broadcasting while white blues and rock artists emulated the vernacular blues into popular music and became more financially successful [Editing audio and adding an interview with John Leopold with the Arhoolie Foundation].

Irwin, K. C. (2009, July). Gender bias against Sarah Palin: A content analysis of national newspapers. (Master's thesis). [Retrieved from Auburn University AUETD.](#)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Broadcasting Education Association (BEA), current  
Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), current  
Southern States Communication Association (SSCA)  
National Popular Culture Association (PCA)  
Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ)

## **SERVICE**

Organized an Alabama Press Association workshop for the AUMnibus student media staff and professional journalists, August 7, 2024, Auburn University at Montgomery

Advisor, The AUMnibus, Auburn University at Montgomery's student-led newspaper website and social media, Jan. 2024-present

Organized student article submissions to the Southeast Journalism Conference from Nov. 2023-Feb. 2024; edited and submitted students' articles. One of my students won first place in the research paper category.

Organized for two students (Jamarcus Knight- 2023 and Keturah Stone- 2024) to apply for and attend the BEA RAB national conference in February Las Vegas, NV

Director of the AUM Dept of Communication & Theatre A.V. Storytelling Summer Camp (June 13-17 2022; June 12-16 & 26-30 2023, June 2024). This was for the purpose of AUM outreach and involved creating, promoting, teaching, facilitating campers & parents, tours, food, the APA grant, funding and technology.

CLASS Film Series committee co-chair (fall 2022-present). Represent my department in this college committee to bring film events to the campus and community. Involves writing the agenda and minutes for the meetings; help organizing the logistics and promotion of the events.

First Presbyterian Church Auburn, Auburn, Alabama  
Usher and liturgist  
Elder, on Session for three-year term (2018 – 2020).

Chairman, Mission Committee (January 2018 – 2020). Oversee the church committee meetings and funding for mission work, including the East Alabama Food Bank; Presbyterian Community Ministry (PCM); Alabama Prison Birth; Bravehearts; Our House after school care and annual shoe drive; Matthew 28 Mission work in Haiti; and other local needed mission work and funding. First Presbyterian Church Auburn, Auburn, Alabama

Volunteer, Becoming the Beloved Committee Event (Sept. 12, 2019 in person and June 23, 2020-virtual meeting). Loving our Neighbors in the Midst of Terror: community discussion with area religious leaders. Sponsored by Auburn University and co-hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Auburn.

USTA 3.5 player –help organize and play weekly on doubles teams, won tri-level state in Sept. 2022

Volunteer, National Memorial for Peace and Justice Opening (April 27-28, 2018) Equal Justice Initiative, Montgomery, Alabama

Kindergarten-second grade Sunday School teacher (2003-2006, 2015-2020)  
First Presbyterian Church Auburn, Auburn, Alabama

Volunteer, Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Auburn City Schools (August 2003-present)  
Project Grad (Auburn HS), Reflections Art Chair/Open House Chair/Room parent/Fall Festival (Dean Road Elem.), Hospitality chair (AJHS)

Volunteer and donator through church, schools, neighborhood, East Alabama Food Bank (2003-present) Auburn, Alabama

Took 30 Navasota High School students (with Spanish teacher and tour director Stephen Irwin) on an ER-Tour 10-day European tour (summer 2000) to Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, France and England.

First Presbyterian Church of Navasota, Texas member (1994-2001)

Senior High one-week Mission Trip co-leader to Tecate, Mexico (Summer, 1996) First Presbyterian Church, Navasota, Texas

Volunteer- Literacy Volunteers of America (1995-1996) helped young adults with their reading literacy Navasota Public Library, Navasota, Texas

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ACTIVITY & SERVICE LEARNING**

HHMI faculty fellows workshops from Sept. 2023-Aug. 2024

Peer Mentor discussion panel (August 19, 2022) for the UNIV-sponsored workshop.

Writing for Public Relations students participated in service learning by creating a campaign to collect more diverse books for AUM's Early Learning Center. They participated in a media event reading to the preschoolers and presenting the ELC director with the books and money raised.

Organized a Communication student ambassador event with the Montgomery Advertiser executive editor, Paige Windsor (March 8, 2022). Comm. Students and faculty toured the Dept. facilities and then had a round table discussion with the CLASS Dean McMichael.

Advanced Media Writing students participated in service learning with Dr. Chelsea Ward and the Biology & Environmental Sciences faculty where they interviewed professors about environmental issues and recorded the audio to accompany their feature articles.

Coordinated with students in December 2021 to submit their audio creative work to the national BEA Festival of Media Arts competition. Student Macio Malone was nationally second place in audio engineering for a song he wrote and produced for a music mashup assignment

Service-learning activity: Created and led an audio-radio announcer activity for the CLASS open house in August 2021.

Serve as an annual judge for the NCFCA Christian Speech & Debate Montgomery Regional Qualifier. I judged many extemporaneous, Lincoln-Douglas rounds, and impromptu speeches.

Faculty training: ODE faculty Zoom meetings and training for Blackboard Ultra (Fall 2021); UNIV faculty development two sessions; faculty development session with Apple iPad expert on using video and photo app and GarageBand for podcasting for class.

Had two audio production students submit their audio creative work to the national BEA Festival of Arts-2022 student Audio Competition for the

Paper Reviewer for AEJMC-Southeast Colloquium conference Memphis, TN- 2022

Paper Reviewer for BEA National conference Las Vegas, NV- 2022

NCFCA Christian Speech & Debate competition- Montgomery, AL- January 2022

Attended the Chronicle of Higher Education Zoom live one-hour workshop: "Supporting Women Academics During Covid" July 2021 Hosted by Liz McMilen, speaker Dr. Jessica Calarco about safety nets the unpaid work that women endured during pandemic.

The Audio Amplified virtual event called Radio Days Africa (RDA) in July 2021. I attended one session on podcasting.

Pop-Up: Pre- Broadcast Education Association (BEA) Festival of Media Arts Panel Discussion: Award-Winning Student Audio: How They Did It- virtually through Zoom. Produced by the BEA Radio & Audio Media Division (August 12, 2020 virtually through Zoom).

Virtual Podcasting Festival "Future of Podcasting" (May 28, 2020) listened and interacted with speakers James Cridland, Kara Swisher and Dr. Siobhan McHugh.

Podacademics Chat (Sept. 24, 2020, February, 26 2021, March, 8, 2021) online Zoom chat with other Communication and media professors, hosted by Kim Fox

Presented how to use Adobe Spark in the classroom at the FDI Flash Talks (Feb. 27, 2020)



Service-Learning: arranged for 13 students to volunteer at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Art to help Patrick Daughtery create his "branch architecture" art outside.

Service-Learning: 12 students did civic engagement with the campaign "Pups & Cups" for the Center for Disability Services, the Counseling Center, and help students reduce stress.

Paper Reviewer (Jan. 2020) for the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium held March 2020

Paper Reviewer (Dec. 2020) of the BEA Radio & Audio Media Paper submissions  
Advisor (Feb. & March 2020) for Writer's Block, a newly created student club by Kenide Flipp. We had one meeting on at the BSU on Thurs., Feb 27, 2020. Club ended after spring 2020.

Volunteer for "Becoming the Beloved Community in the Midst of Racism, Inequality, and COVID-19 (June 23 and July 23, 2020). Helped coordinate the event logistics with Dr. Joan Harrell and was Zoom moderator for both meetings (letting attendees in and working the video and audio).

AUM Summer Leadership Series: Strengthening Emotional Intelligence with MBTI by Neal Kelley via Zoom (June, 2020) 3 hours

AUM Safe Zone Training hosted by AUM Spectrum by Dr. Paul Hard (Feb. 26, 2021)

Strengthening Emotional Intelligence with MBTI Workshop (June 24, 2020 virtually through Zoom). Presented by Neal Kelley through the Office of Human Resources at Auburn University at Montgomery.

Broadcast Education Association (BEA) attended a discussion as a part of the Pop-Up series: "Racial Injustice: A Necessary Conversation" (June 4, 2020 virtually through Zoom).

FDI New Faculty Orientation Auburn University at Montgomery- 3 new faculty meetings (August, Sept., and Oct 2019).

New faculty coffee visits with Dr. Kim Brackett, AUM Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (Fall 2019 in person and Spring 2020 in person and through Zoom

FDI Flash Talks-Gave a presentation about Adobe Spark during the annual workshop (March 2020). Auburn University at Montgomery.

Submission Reviewer for the Open Division for the 2020 AEJMC Southeast Colloquium (February 2020).

Adobe Creative Campus Collaboration Workshops – University of Maryland (June 18-19 2019) Sponsored by Adobe and Columbus State University Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

New Faculty Seminar Presentations- CSU Awards, May 2019, Columbus State University - Video: The Nightmare and Stress of using S.M.A.R.T. Objectives for service-learning

Submission Reviewer for the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual International Communication Association (ICA) Conference- Mass Communication Division, Jonathan Cohen contact (November 2018)

Faculty Development Spring 2019, Columbus State University

Metacognition with book author Tim Elmore from Growing Leaders  
Preparing for Annual Performance Reviews (teaching, service, research) ▪  
QEP: Working with students on the Autism Spectrum

Faculty Development Fall 2018, Columbus State University

Ideas and Tools for Increasing Student Engagement in Online Courses  
Big Personalities, Little Classrooms: Classroom Dynamics and Dynamic Individuals  
Teaching and Learning: Myths, Evidence, and Clear Paths Forward  
Nonverbal Communication and Creative Problem Solving (QEP)  
Creating Syllabus Policies to Support a Growth Mindset by Dr. Susan Hrach  
How to do Service-Learning at CSU by Dr. Amanda Rees, Geography  
Reducing DFW rate by Dr. Fady Mansour, Dept. of Accounting & Finance  
QEP meeting with Dr. Mariko Izumi  
Supporting Inclusive Practices by the Center of Online Learning ▪ Developing  
Inclusive Practices by Center of Online Learning

Committee to develop a Peer Evaluation Rubric for online teaching (January 2018-Fall 2018)  
Biggio Center (with Instructional Designer Betsy Gilbertson), Auburn University

Course Learning Outcomes Workshop by Dr. Linda North (March 2, 2018)  
Southern Union State Community College, Opelika, Alabama

Faculty Development Institute (FDI) Blackboard ongoing training courses (2014-2018)  
Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama

FDI Faculty Flash Talks - Presentation on YouTube versus Kaltura (2017)  
Auburn University Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama

Learning Community Committee (2014)  
Southern Union State Community College, Opelika, Alabama

Faculty Workshop Training, 5 Saturdays of training (February 2012)  
University of Phoenix, Columbus, Georgia

**Undergraduate /College Service at Texas A&M University**

Town Hall -Special Events (MSC) (1989-1991)-helped organize, promote and work concerts  
and performances such as Reba McIntire, George Strait, Bolshoi Ballet

Political Forum, Memorial Student Center (MSC), Fundraising Chair (1988-1990)  
Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) in the MSC (1990)

PBS KAMU-TV volunteer cameraperson/grip worked under Tony Hockenberry (1989-1991)

Fish Camp Counselor (1990)

International Buddy Program, International Student Center (1989-1991)

Student Government (SGA) class representative (1989)