



Department of Speech

School of Humanities, Communications and Fine Arts

August 18, 2019

Dear TSCA Nominating Committee,

It is an honor to be considered as the next potential Texas Speech Communication Journal Editor. As a scholar in the field of communication, I seek out opportunities to grow in my comprehension of and contribution to our vast field of study. This position would afford both. Therefore, I accept the nomination as Editor of the Texas Speech Communication Journal.

In a time of societal division that often promotes feelings over facts, intellectually honest scholarship must be preserved in order to maintain, or in some instances, re-establish the credibility of the academy. A quote often attributed to Aristotle states, "It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it". As representatives of Speech and Communication education in the state of Texas, we must commit to eschew the echo chambers that entice us with reinforcement of our own worldview, and embrace the free and open exchange of ideas, which is the hallmark of education. Academic journals are an integral part of that marketplace of ideas.

Dr. Leslie Rodriguez has expanded the reach of the TSCJ during her time as Editor. From increasing the number of peer reviewers, to re-organizing and upgrading the review process, she has made a great contribution to this publication. If elected as Editor, I will continue Dr. Rodriguez's work in investigating new ways of promoting our journal, while maintaining its established credibility.

As the Texas Speech Communication Association seeks to further promote speech and communication education in the state of Texas, commitment to intellectual honesty and free speech is essential. As Editor of the Texas Speech Communication Journal, I would work to preserve these ideals in service to the organization.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Jo Ratcliff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Ph.D.

# Service to TSCA and the Field of Speech in the State of Texas

Nominee for Texas Speech Communication Journal Editor: Amanda Jo Ratcliff

Texas Speech Communication Association (TSCA)

## Association Involvement

*Member, 2015 – Present*

*Promotional Campaign for Rhetoric and Communication Theory Interest Group, 2018*

*Educator of the Year Committee, 2017-2019*

*Chair of Rhetoric and Communication Theory Interest Group, 2017-2018*

*Vice-Chair of Rhetoric and Communication Theory Interest Group, 2016-2017*

## Conference Presentations

**Ratcliff, A.J.** & Matthias, T. (2017). Get it ON(line): A GIFTS session for Online and Hybrid Speech Teachers. Texas Speech Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2017). The Day a Generation Died: An Examination of the New London School Explosion Through a Framework of Crisis Communication Theory. Texas Speech Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2016). Texas Campus Carry: The Faculty Perspective. Texas Speech Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.



August 24, 2019

Dear TSCA Journal Editor Nominating Committee:

It is my understanding that Dr. Amanda Jo Ratcliff is applying to be the TSCA Journal Editor. As her direct supervisor, I am honored to provide a recommendation for her. Amanda Jo has my full support in this endeavor and I know that she will serve the Association well in this capacity.

Dr. Ratcliff is one of the most engaging, professional, dedicated, and honorable professors that I have ever known. Her interaction with her students and her colleagues is always positive and professional. She is a leader among her peers, serving on special projects within the Communication Studies Department and committees across campus. She leads by example, provides direction and guidance when best, and is respected by all. Amanda Jo has always been dependable in her responsibilities as a professor and employee of the college; she holds herself to a high standard of excellence and is diligent to meet and exceed expectations. She continually strives to learn both for her own enjoyment and fulfillment as well as to implement new strategies to help students learn and succeed. These qualities and many more give me confidence to say that Amanda Jo will excel in this position.

It is without hesitation that I recommend Amanda Jo to be accepted as the Journal Editor for TSCA. She will be a wonderful editor, and I know you will be thrilled to have her!

If you would like any further information, or would like to visit with me, please email me at [lsmi@tjc.edu](mailto:lsmi@tjc.edu) or call me at 903-510-3242.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lara K. Smith".

Lara K. Smith, Chair  
Department of Communication Studies  
Tyler Junior College

# AMANDA JO RATCLIFF

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Professor  
Speech and Theater Department  
Tyler Junior College  
P.O. Box 9020  
Tyler, Texas 75711-9020

Phone: (903) 714-5383  
E-Mail: arat@tjc.edu

### EDUCATION

**Ph.D., Strategic Communication**, Regent University; Virginia Beach, VA;  
**May 2017.**

Dissertation Title: *The Influence of the Medium: An Examination of Faculty and Student Experiences with Online Public Speaking Courses.*

**M.S., Communication Studies**, University of North Texas; Denton, TX;  
**May 2002.**

Specialization: *Rhetoric, Public Speaking, Persuasion.*

**B.S., Speech Communication**, University of Texas at Tyler; Tyler, TX  
**May 2000.**

Minor: *Marketing and Management.*

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Rhetoric, Public Speaking, Persuasion
- Online Communication Courses
- Business and Professional Communication
- Indirect Communication
- Ethics and Communication
- Media Ecology

### PUBLICATIONS

**Ratcliff, A. J.,** McCarty, J., Ritter, M. (2017). Religion and new media: A uses and gratifications approach. *Journal of Media and Religion*, 16(1), 15-26.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2017). *The Influence of the Medium: An Examination of Faculty and Student Experiences with Online Public Speaking Courses.* Regent University.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2019). Reflections of a Course Redesign: Strategies Learned to Better Reach and Teach Online Students. Tyler Junior College Fall 2019 Professional Development, Tyler, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2018). Teamwork in an Online Speech Course: The Tyler Junior College Team Presentation Assignment. Tyler Junior College Distance Education Conference, Tyler, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2017). The Influence of the Medium: An Examination of Student Experiences with Online Public Speaking Courses. National Communication Association Conference, Dallas, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** & Matthias, T. (2017). Get it ON(line): A GIFTS session for Online and Hybrid Speech Teachers. Texas Speech Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2017). The Day a Generation Died: An Examination of the New London School Explosion Through a Framework of Crisis Communication Theory. Texas Speech Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2016). Texas Campus Carry: The Faculty Perspective. Texas Speech Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** (2013). G.I.F.T.S. Presentation: Your John Hancock - An Exercise in Confidence Building and Class Participation. Southern States Communication Association Conference, Louisville, KY.

**Ratcliff, A.J.**, Zenor, M., & Gallegos, L. (2010). Frightening or Fairytale? A QEP's Journey from Implementation to the QEP Impact Report. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY.

**Ratcliff, A.J.** & Potter, D. (2007). If at First You Don't Succeed...The Lon Morris College QEP Journey. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Professor – Tyler Junior College**

#### **Fall 2015 – Present**

SPCH 1315 Public Speaking

SPCH 1321 Business and Professional Speaking

Online and Hybrid Modalities

### **Adjunct Professor – Jacksonville College**

#### **Summer 2019- Present**

SPCH 1315 Public Speaking

SPCH 1321 Business and Professional Speaking

Online

### **Adjunct Professor – The University of Texas at Tyler**

#### **Fall 2015 – Spring 2019**

SPCM 1315 Fundamentals of Speech

SPCM 4326 Advanced Public Speaking

### **Adjunct Professor – University of Central Oklahoma (Edmond, OK)**

**Fall 2014 – Spring 2015**

MCOM 1113 Fundamentals of Speech

**Adjunct Professor – Oklahoma Christian University (Edmond, OK)**

**Fall 2014**

COMM 1111 Introduction to Communication

**Visiting Professor – East Texas Baptist University (Marshall, TX)**

**Fall 2012 – Spring 2013**

SPCH 1311 Fundamentals of Communication

SPCH 3311 Professional Communication

SPCH 4306 Seminar in Instructional Communication

SPCH 2303 Listening

SPCH 3308 Nonverbal Communication

Yearbook Advisor

**Assistant Professor – Lon Morris College (Jacksonville, TX)**

**Fall 2004 – Spring 2012**

SPCH 1311 Introduction to Speech Communication

SPCH 1321 Business and Professional Communication

SPCH 1315 Public Speaking

SPCH 2304 Argumentation and Debate

Yearbook Advisor

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Assessment Coordinator,

*Division of Academic Affairs, Lon Morris College; Jacksonville, TX.*

**Aug. 2010 – May 2012**

Quality Enhancement Plan Director,

*Division of Academic Affairs, Lon Morris College; Jacksonville, TX.*

**Aug. 2005 – May 2012**

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

**Certificate of Excellence**, *Tyler Junior College Student Support Services TRIO Program*, Tyler Junior College, Tyler, TX; **Apr. 2017**

**Rotarian of the Year**, *Rotary District 5830*, Gilmer, TX; **2011**

**Exemplary Teach of the Year**, Lon Morris College, Jacksonville, TX; **Apr. 2009**

**Who's Who Among American College Teachers**, Lon Morris College, Jacksonville, TX; **May 2007**

**I.T. Shotwell Award for Outstanding Faculty Member**, Lon Morris College, Jacksonville, TX; **May 2006**

**Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Association Honor Society**, University of North Texas, Denton TX; **2002**

**Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society**, University of North Texas, Denton TX; **2002**

**Graduate Student Service Award in Communication Studies**, University of North Texas, Denton TX; **2002**

**Alpha Chi National College Honor Society**, University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, TX; **2000**

**Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society**, Tyler Junior College, Tyler, TX; **1998**

**Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society**, Texas Womans University, Denton, TX; **1997**

### **SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY**

Curriculum and Instruction Committee, Chair

*Tyler Junior College*; **Aug. 2019- May 2021**; Member, **Sep. 2018 – July 2019**

Program Assessment Committee, Member

*Tyler Junior College*; **Sep. 2015 – Present**

Department of Communication Assessment Committee, Member

*University of Texas at Tyler*; **Sep. 2017 – Dec. 2018**

Graduate School Workshop & Tutorial Series, The Power of Public Speaking

*University of Texas at Tyler*; **Dec. 2018**

Graduate School Workshop & Tutorial Series, How to Give a Speech

*University of Texas at Tyler*; **Dec. 2018**

Digital Toolbox, Video and Content Contributor

*University of Texas at Tyler*; **May 2018**

Faculty Senate, Senator

*Tyler Junior College*; **Sep. 2017 – May 2018**

Faculty Senate, Alternate

*Tyler Junior College*; **Sep. 2016 – May 2017**

Assistant Debate Coach

*East Texas Baptist University*; **Aug. 2012 – May 2013**

Rotaract Club of Lon Morris College, Faculty Advisor

*Lon Morris College*; **Sep. 2009 – May 2012**

Fifth Year Accreditation Report Committee, Member

*Lon Morris College*; **Sep. 2010 – May 2011**

Faculty Development Planning Committee, Chair  
*Lon Morris College; Sep. 2008 – May 2009*

Strategic Planning Committee, Member  
*Lon Morris College; Sep. 2008 – May 2009*

Academic Standards and Admissions Committee, Chair  
*Lon Morris College; Sep. 2007 – May 2008*

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Texas Speech Communication Association (TSCA), **2015 – Present**  
*Chair of Rhetoric and Communication Theory Interest Group, 2017-2018*  
*Vice-Chair of Rhetoric and Communication Theory Interest Group, 2016-2017*

National Communication Association (NCA), **2017 – 2018**

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Church of Christ, Member, **1991 – Present**  
*Highway 15 Church of Christ, Secretary/Treasurer, 2016-Present*

Rotary International, Member, **Jan. 2009- May 2013**  
*District 5830 Youth Exchange Co-Leader, 2012*  
*District 5830 Group Study Exchange Co-Trainer, 2010 – 2012*  
*Bullard Rotary President, 2011*