

# WALTERS, MYRA H.

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◆ 13260 Bird Road, Fort Myers, Florida 33905 mwalters@edison.edu◆

## PROFESSOR OF SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND FACULTY CHAIR OF THE SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

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### QUALIFICATIONS

Twenty-eight year academic who brings experience with teaching and learning to coordinate all aspects of assessment at the college level.

**The University of Alabama M.A.** Speech Communication (Emphasis: Organizational Communication) **(1983)**

**B.A.** Speech Communication and Political Science **(1980)**

Experienced Trainer/Consultant in Organizational Communication Training and Development

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### EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

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### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES 2009-PRESENT

- Reports to and advises the dean or associate dean regarding the unit.
- Provides leadership and direction in the planning, assessment, development, and delivery of academic programs and in the maintenance of excellence in teaching, scholarly productivity or creative endeavor, and service.
- Directs and coordinates the academic, accountability/evaluation, operational, personnel, budgetary, as well as assessment project budgets and student-oriented activities of his/her academic unit.
- Participates in college governance and on Edison State College committees as required; represents the department, college, and/or College externally, including national and international conferences and meetings; and teaches courses and conducts individual scholarly activities as appropriate.
- Manages and coordinate diverse services with other campus programs and affiliates and work effectively with a variety of people throughout the organization and external to the College.
- Manage speech communication and foreign language lab fees
- Teaches ground and online sections of public speaking

## **Lead Faculty for Cornerstone Experience Curriculum (Special Assignment, Fall 2011 & Spring 2012)**

The Lead Faculty for Curriculum (2 course release for fall 2011 and spring 2012) will:

- Prepare the course content and present course proposal to curriculum committee
- Chair and organize the textbook selection committee
- Coordinate, plan and conduct course specific training to new faculty members
- Participate in selection of SLS 1515 faculty
- Participate in all Cornerstone Experience professional development modules
- Organize and arrange opportunities for faculty and staff to learn about the Cornerstone Experience course, in cooperation with the TLC
- Serve as a member of the QEP Implementation Team
- Working with the Cornerstone Experience curriculum subcommittee, the Lead Faculty for Curriculum will complete the following tasks:
  - Develop a college-wide GSR assignment in cooperation with Library personnel
  - Adopt a college-wide career assessment tool in cooperation with Career Services personnel
  - Implement a Passport assignment in cooperation with FYE & Academic Success personnel
  - Design an online course template for SLS1515 in cooperation with Edison Online
  - Implement Critical Thinking assessments
  - Collaborate with FYE Coordinator in community service projects and student/faculty engagement

### **Faculty, Edison State College**

**1983- present**

*Performs all required duties of a faculty member*

A faculty member at Edison State College is responsible for the following faculty roles: teaching and instruction, college service, professional development, and community service (optional). Has served as the assistant coach for the forensics team and has taught the following courses:

- *Fundamentals of Speech Communication (SPC 1017 –ground, Tele course, and online formats)*
- *Introduction to Public Speaking (SPC 2023 –ground, Tele course, and online formats)*

### **Selected Achievements:**

- Worked with McGraw-Hill to develop and co-star in the Human Communication and the Public Speaking Tele courses.
- Coordinated the Speech Communication and Foreign Languages unit plans and lab fees in collaboration with the dean/associate dean.
- Designed and facilitated an assessment workshop for all full time and adjunct Department Faculty.
- Developed the Master course for the online Introduction to Public Speaking Course

### **Adjunct Faculty, Barry University, Fort Myers Campus**

- Organizational Communication I

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant (The University of Alabama)**

**1980- August, 1983**

- The Fundamentals of Speech Communication SPC 101

## **Trainer and Communication Consultant**

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### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

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#### **Fall 2011**

#### **FYE Certification Courses**

Critical Thinking Two-Seminar facilitated by Dr. Gerald Nosich, Critical Thinking Foundation Fellow

Diversity on the College Campus and Beyond

Introduction to College Services, Programs, Support

Universal Design in Higher Education

Understanding the First Year Students

The Way I Learn

Constructivist Pedagogy and the Student-Centered Classroom

#### **Received Certification to Teach the First Year Experience Course**

#### **2010/2011 Activities**

Florida Communication Association Annual Conference Oct. 2010

The Foundation of Critical Thinking Institute (Berkley, Calif.) July, 2010

Thirtieth Annual First Year Experience Conference Feb. 2011  
Short Course:

#### ***Attended the following Professional Development Opportunities in the Teaching and Learning Center:***

Faculty Portfolio Workshop Aug. 31, 2010

The Edison State College Student Sept. 8, 2010

Know Your Contract Sept. 23, 2010

30 Practical Ideas to Promote Student Learning Sept. 23, 2010

Global Socio-Cultural Responsibility Student Learning Outcome Oct. 7, 2010

Seminar on Critical Thinking and Global Socio-Cultural Responsibility Nov. 6, 2010

Critical Thinking: Elements and Analysis Jan. 10, 2011

**Presenter at the Annual Meeting of Florida Communication Association Oct. 2011**

*Building Communities Across Disciplines, Hierarchies, Campuses and into the Community at Large*

PANEL CHAIR: Katie Paschall, Edison State College

Co-Presenters: Myra Walters, Edison State College and Paula McKenzie, Bethune-Cookman University

*Developing a ``Community of Critical Thinkers`` in the Basic Communication Course*

Workshop Chair: Myra Walters, Edison State College Co-Presenter: Katie Paschall, Edison State College

**2009/2010 Activities**

Attended the National Communication Association Conference in November, 2009

Completed the Following Short Courses:

1. ***(Re) discovering PowerPoint: retooling the PowerPoint Pedagogy for 2009 and Beyond (SC01)***  
*Thursday, Nov. 12 8:00- 10:45*
2. ***Using Research to Enhance and Change the Way We Teach Listening in the Interpersonal Communication Course (SC06)***  
*Thursday, Nov. 12 12:30 – 3:15*
3. ***Keeping Your Communication Across the Curriculum Program Afloat: Funding, Assessment, and Innovation during Economic Instability (SC23)***  
*Saturday, Nov. 14 11:00 -1:45 p.m.*

***Attended the following Professional Development Opportunities in the Teaching and Learning Center:***

*Teaching With Power Point*

*Feb. 9, 2010*

*Fall Faculty Online Learning Institute*

*May e-learning Institute*

*May, 2009*

*Writing Assignments for Assessments*

*Critical Thinking Assignments for Assessments*

*Webinar on Disturbed and Disturbing Students*

***Additional Professional Development Opportunities***

Six-hour Online Wimba Training

Sept., 2009

Unit Planning Workshop

## **2008/2009**

Attended the National Communication Association Conference in November, 2009

**SC 07: The Unconventional Part of Communication: Teaching Listening in the Basic Communication Course**

**SC 13: Unconventional Service-Learning and Engagement: Funding and Implementing Programs in Communication and Social Responsibility across the Curriculum**

**SC 30: Communication Centers: Unconventional, Accessible, Indispensable and All-Encompassing**

## **2007/2008 Activities**

*Attended the following Professional Development Opportunities at Edison State College:*

**Edison Online Certification Pedagogy**

**WebCT: Creating Assignments and Projects**

**WebCT: Advanced Gradebook**

**Microsoft Office 2007**

## **2006/2007 Activities**

*Enrolled in the following short courses at the National Communication Association Conference:*

**SC 01: More than Site: Developing and Maintaining the Essentials of a Communication Center as Centerpiece of Connection and Action (Thurs 8:00a.m.-10:45)**

**SC 11: Communication Across the Curriculum and in the Disciplines: Building, Sustaining, and Assessing a Quality Program (Fri. 8:00a.m. – 10:45)**

**SC 20: The Nuts-and-Bolts of Assessment: Writing Learning Objectives—Selecting Assessment tools—Data Based Decision Making (Fri. 2:00p.m. 4:45p.m).**

## College Service

### *Chair for Professional Development*

2006/2007-2008/2009

*As Chair, my responsibilities included designing, developing, and presenting a comprehensive program for professional development to meet the needs of full time and adjunct faculty. During the first year of my assignment, the committee designed a Center for Teaching and Learning, assessed faculty and reviewed assessment data to determine appropriate workshops, developed a logo, developed a strategic plan, implemented workshops, participated in the recommendation process for Staff and Program Development Funds (SPD), and implemented a process for faculty recognition.*

#### **Selected Achievements:**

- Initiated the President's Book Club to Promote Community Amongst faculty
- Launched the Teaching and Learning Center
- Established certificate documentation for attendance

### *Chair for the Department of Speech Communication and Foreign Languages*

*The Department Chair serves as a leader in the academic discipline, acting as a liaison between interdisciplinary departments and the dean. Also, the Chair provides academic direction and support for discipline-related issues district-wide, fostering collaboration and facilitating communication of College initiatives as they relate to the academic discipline. Job duties are accomplished with the coordinated involvement of other faculty and the area dean.*

#### **Selected Achievements:**

- Established the Oral Communication Center
- Researched and wrote the Staff and Program Development Proposal for the full time faculty to attend the National Communication Association's Annual Meeting in Chicago. **Grant Approved.**
- Researched and wrote the curriculum committee proposal to make ENC 1101 (the first level composition course) a prerequisite for SPC 1017 and SPC 2023 after reviewing student assessment data. **Proposal Approved.**
- Coordinated the development of the public speaking rubric
- Designed a workshop on "Evaluating Public Speaking Across the Curriculum" for non communication faculty and presented in the Teaching and Learning Center
- Developed and implemented a process for evaluating new textbooks
- Presented Listening Workshop for the College's Upward Bound Program

#### **Current Committee Assignments**

*Quality Enhancement Plan Steering Committee (QEP)*

*First Year Experience Steering Committee (FYE)*

*Co-Chair for the Philosophy Dimension of the Foundations of Excellence Self-Study*

*Academic Technology Committee*

*Student Assessment Committee*

*Co-Chair for the Communications Committee of the FYE Committee*

*Member, Student Assessment Committee*

## **Past Committee Assignments**

*Curriculum Committee*

*Professional Development Committee*

*Chair of Search Committee for Speech faculty and the Oral Communication Center*

*Member Search Committees for English faculty*

## **Made the Following Presentations for the Teaching and Learning Center:**

*Best Practices for Oral Communication Assignments for the Fall 2010 Online Learning Institute*

*Engaged Listening*

*Special Topics: Critical Thinking*

*Evaluating Public Speaking Across the Curriculum*

*Diversity in the Classroom for New Faculty*

*Panel Participant for The Disruptive Student*

*Diversity for the Leadership Development Program*

## **Additional College Service**

*Student Mentor*

*Online Faculty Mentor*

## **Professional Affiliations**

*Florida Communication Association (FCA)*

*National Communication Association (NCA)*

*International Listening Association (ILA)*

## **Community Service**

*Current Trustee for the Southwest Florida Community Foundation Board*

*(Chair, Scholarship Committee)*

*Membership Committee for Women's Legacy Fund*

*Past Board Member for the Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida*

*Past Board Member for Children's Charities for Southwest Florida (Board responsible for building and raising funds for the area Ronald McDonald House)*

*Past President and current member of the Junior League of Fort Myers*

**Selected Achievements:**

- Organized the First Training Team to promote the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers

*Past Allocations Committee member for the area United Way Agency`*

*Past Co-Chair, BRAVO BALLET! (A fundraiser for the area's only not-for-profit school of classical ballet to provide scholarships for talented and under privileged students.)*

*Past Committee Member of the Annual Heart Ball Auction Committee*

*Board Member of Trinity United Methodist Church*

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## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

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*Thomas A. Edison Award for Teaching Excellence, 1994*

*Junior League Sustainer Community Service Award, 2007*