

Kristina Ruiz-Mesa, Ph.D.

Department of Communication Studies

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Communication, University of Colorado, Boulder

Dissertation: “*Discourses of Difference: Communicating Diversity in U.S. Higher Education*”

Under the direction of advisors, Dr. Tim Kuhn and Dr. Larry Frey, with

committee members Dr. Brenda J. Allen, Dr. Karen L. Ashcraft, and Dr. Michele Moses

Master of Arts in Strategic Communication, Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania

M.A. Thesis: “*Organizational Diversity Retention in Higher Education through Micropractices*”

Under the direction of advisor Dr. Emory Woodard, with committee members

Dr. Sheryl P. Bowen, Dr. Maurice Hall, and Dr. Teresa A. Nance

Bachelor of Arts in Communication, Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania

Senior Thesis: “*Effects of Institutional Efforts in Diversity and Actual Institutional Diversity in American Colleges and Universities*” Under the direction of advisor Dr. Emory Woodard

Concentration in Latin American Studies, Minor in Spanish Language & Literature

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

California State University, Los Angeles

Sept. 2013 - present

Professor & Basic Course Director

August 2023 - present

Associate Professor & Basic Course Director

Aug. 2019 – Aug. 2023

Assistant Professor & Basic Course Director

Sept. 2014 - July 2019

Faculty Member & Basic Course Director (one-year term)

Sept. 2013 - June 2014

- Teach undergraduate and graduate courses in Communication Studies & Honors Program
- Conduct all planning, budgeting, and assessment of the general education (GE) oral communication course (COMM 1100) which annually serves 3,700-4,000 undergraduate students across all majors and colleges (120-145 individual course sections annually)
- Design and assess curriculum, assignments, and activities for COMM 1100 course in face-to-face, hybrid, and online modalities
- Supervise COMM 1100 teaching staff, including the Assistant Basic Course Director, 15+ graduate teaching associates (TAs), and 12+ lecturers
- Organize and execute 40+ hours of COMM 1100 team training each academic year
- Plan and host two annual Public Speaking Showcases with 1,000+ student attendees
- Led CSU Promising Practices course redesign grant of GE oral communication \$27,384

Villanova University - Villanova, Pennsylvania

Aug. 2005- Aug. 2018

**Director, St. Thomas of Villanova Scholars (S.T.O.V.S.) Summer Bridge Program
July 2008 – August 2018**

- Managed a professional staff of 11, including faculty, teaching assistants, counselors, advisors, and mentors
- Coordinated schedules, courses, and workshops for 25-40 students each summer
- Planned program budget, housing, academic courses, off-campus trips, and skills-training workshops to promote college success
- Monitored student achievement each semester; First-year GPA for the target group increased from 2.7 to 3.1, and a 4-year graduation rate of 93%
- Assessed program and student success outcomes, achievements, and challenges to maximize student success
- Wrote reports and assisted in presentations to secure long-term corporate funding for the bridge program with Villanova University's School of Business

**Assistant Director, Center for Multicultural Affairs
January 2007 – August 2010**

- Developed and directed a pre-college bridge program, St. Thomas of Villanova Scholars
- Led assessment efforts for the strategic diversity plan, the Diversity Blueprint
- Reviewed University policies and Student Life programs for equity and inclusion
- Established curriculum and taught in a new first-year learning community
- Designed curriculum and trained more than 400 staff, faculty, and students on campus diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts
- Created surveys, and facilitated focus groups to improve campus climate and implementation of Diversity Blueprint with the campus Chief Diversity Officer
- Managed budget and scholarships for Goizueta Foundation Fund for Student Enrichment
- Member of the University Assessment Panel for Middle States Accreditation
- Recruiter for Villanova University throughout California at Hispanic College Fairs
- Wrote four yearly stewardship reports and quarterly University updates for DEI

**Graduate Assistant for Retention, Center for Multicultural Affairs (CMA)
August 2005 – December 2006**

- Managed 150+ caseload of first-year CMA students to increase student retention
- Organized, implemented, and managed diverse student programs and services
- Provided student support and resources for academic, social, and financial concerns
- Worked with Institutional Research to college and code data from campus climate survey

University of Colorado at Boulder

Aug. 2010-Dec. 2011

Lead Teaching Assistant, COMM 1210, Communication Department

- Planned weekly recitations for 400+ undergraduate students across instructor sections
- Taught weekly recitation sections and led discussions of course materials
- Coordinated meetings with the lead professor and TAs to align teaching strategies
- Awarded summer fellowship to assist in communication curriculum redesign for required COMM 1210: Perspectives on Human Communication course

University of California, Irvine

October 2012-May 2013

Administrative Analyst for Human Resources, University Advancement

- Coordinated fundraisers, donor relations, and university communication plan
- Drafted, revised, and processed recruitment and orientation schedules and reports
- Managed staff recognition programs and donor events

Anti-Defamation League

Sept. 2008 - Dec. 2012

No Place for Hate trainer/per diem consultant, Philadelphia, PA, and Denver, CO

- Delivered anti-hate and anti-bullying programs throughout the Philadelphia region
- Planned and assessed curriculum and schedules for student training programs
- Facilitated intercultural diversity dialogues with peer-training students

Philadelphia Zoo

2005-2006

Conservation Educator, Department of Education

- Taught guests and school groups about animals in the Rare Animal Conservation Center
- Assisted with river otter research, and education curriculum development
- Delivered public presentations on conservation, composting, and waste reduction

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Broeckelman-Post, M.A. (2023) Creating equitable and inclusive basic course classrooms: A response essay. *Basic Communication Course Annual*, 35, Article 9.

<https://ecommons.udayton.edu/bcca/vol35/iss1/9>

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2022). "We're talking about race!" Communicative practices of chief diversity officers. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 50(3) 309-326.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00909882.2022.2083432>

Benavides, C. M., Sidiqi, M., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, & Ribera, D. (2022). Supporting first generation Latinx freshmen: The importance of university resources, faculty, and peers. *Journal of Latinos and Education*, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15348431.2022.2141748>

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2021) Reaction needed: diversity, intersectionality, and communication pedagogy. *Communication Education*, 70(3), 333-335.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/03634523.2021.1912794>

Anderson, L., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, Hosek, A., Waldbuesser, C, Hall, J., Broeckelman-Post, M. (2020). I second that emotion: A collaborative examination of emotions felt in course administration work. *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 49(2), 201-228.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/0891241619873130>

Broeckelman-Post, M., Hunter, K.M., Westwick, J.N., Hosek, A., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, Hooker, J., & Anderson, L. B. (2020). Measuring essential learning outcomes for public speaking. *Basic Communication Course Annual*, 32, Article 4. <https://ecommons.udayton.edu/bcca/vol32/iss1/4>

Jensen, P.R., Cruz, J., Eger, E.K., Hanchey, J., Gist-Mackey, A.N., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, Villamil, A. (2020). Pushing beyond positionalities and through “failures” in qualitative organizational communication. *Management Communication Quarterly*, 34(1), 121-151. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0893318919885654>

Ruiz-Mesa, K., & Hunter, K. M. (2019). Best practices for facilitating difficult dialogues in the basic communication course. *Journal of Communication Pedagogy*, 2, 134-141. <https://doi.org/10.31446/JCP.2019.23>

Ruiz-Mesa, K., & Broeckelman-Post, M. A. (2018). Making the case for the basic communication course in general education. *Basic Communication Course Annual*, 30, Article 13. <https://ecommons.udayton.edu/bcca/vol30/iss1/13>

Broeckelman-Post, M. A., & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2018). Best practices for training new graduate teaching assistants. *Journal of Communication Pedagogy*, 1, 93-100. DOI:10.31446/JCP.2018.02 https://csc-net.org/aws/CSCA/asset_manager/get_file/217368?ver=88

National Textbook

Ruiz-Mesa, K., & Broeckelman-Post, M.A. (2021). *Inclusive public speaking: Communicating in a diverse world*. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press. <https://fountainheadpress.com/discipline/communication/ips/>

Book Chapters and Related Publications

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2022). The magic of mentors and theory: A storied reflection. In M. Orbe, J. Sims & J. Austin (Eds.) *Communication theory: Racially diverse and inclusive perspectives* (p. 117). Cognella.

Magruder, E.D., Scott, W., Willard, M., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, & Drew, S. (2019). Transparency to close opportunity gaps in the largest state system: A pilot experiment. In M.A. Winkelmes, A. Boye, and S. Tapp (Eds.) *Transparent design in higher education teaching and leadership* (pp. 166-184). Stylus.

Kurtin, K.S, & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2019). Chapter 9: Mass Communication: Parasocial influence on college student’s interracial relationships. In K. Kurtin (Ed.) *Diving Deeper Into Communication: An Introduction and Beyond* (pp. 123-132). Cognella Academic Publishing.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2018). Did you just see that? Using critical communication pedagogy and observation to teach about identity and social norms. In J.S. Seiter, J. Peeples, & M.L.

Sanders (Eds.) *A G.I.F.T.S. collection: Activities for teaching communication in the classroom* (pp. 158-161). Bedford/St. Martin.

Ruiz-Mesa, K., Matos, J., Langner, G. (2017). Trigger warnings to protect learning: A case study in public speaking. In E.J.M. Knox (Ed.) *Trigger warnings: History, theory, context* (pp. 231-238). Rowman & Littlefield.

Gigliotti, R., Dwyer, B., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2017) Campus unrest in American higher education: Challenges and opportunities for strategic diversity leadership. In J.L. Chin, J.E. Trimble, & J.E. Garcia (Eds.) *Global and culturally diverse leaders and leadership: New dimensions, opportunities, and challenges for business, industry, education and society* (pp. 211-231). Emerald.

National Instructional Resources

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2020). Effective online teaching practices: Embracing diversity. *Association of College and University Educators*. Curriculum, teaching materials, and lecture presentation captured for national teacher educator course. <https://vimeo.com/463078377/ff2df7ddd9>

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2020) Inclusive public speaking: A contemporary approach to teaching communication. *Association of College and University Educators*. <https://community.acue.org/blog/inclusive-public-speaking/>

Broeckelman-Post, M.A., & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2018). Measuring college learning in public speaking. *Learning in Higher Education*, Social Science Research Council. highered.ssrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018.10-MCL-in-Public-Speaking-Report.pdf

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2015). Best practices in classroom engagement: Understanding identity and who you are in the classroom. *Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)*. Curriculum, teaching materials, and lecture presentation captured for national teacher educator course. <https://youtu.be/OdaHa90XupY>

Other Publications

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2016, 2017). Managing Editor for Custom Cal State LA textbook, The Golden Eagle Guide to Public Speaking. Original textbook J. M. Valenzano, III, S. W. Braden, and M. A. Broeckelman-Post. *The Speaker's Primer*. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2013). Guided reading notes for Chapter 15: Research and Preparation. In J. M. Valenzano, III, S. W. Braden, and M. A. Broeckelman-Post. *The Speaker's Primer*. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2012). Scholar's Corner. *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine*, 23 (2), p. 28.

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Broeckelman-Post. Relevant today and prepared for tomorrow: Inclusion, diversity, equity, access (IDEA) in public speaking. In S.M. Munz, T. McKenna-Buchanan, & A. M. Wright (Eds). *Public Speaking Research and Theory*. Routledge Press. (Accepted and submitted for final publication 4/2023)

MacDonald, J. & Ruiz-Mesa, K. "I hate being called a dreamer": Managing discursive tensions at undocumented student resource centers. Manuscript in preparation for submission to *Communication Monographs*.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- State grant to support Dreamers/Undocumented college student experiences (2019-2021)
- College research award (RSCA) to study COMM 1100 student success (2018)
- NCA Advancing the Discipline Grant for basic course research (2016-17)
- Promising Course Redesign from the CSU Chancellor's Office (2015-2016)
- Cal State LA Mini-grant to study interdisciplinary cultural competency (2015-2016)
- Cal State LA Mini-grant to study identity in exiled Cuban-American women (2014-2015)

INVITED TALKS

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (June 2023). *Communication evidence-based teaching demonstration*. Invited to teach communication session highlighting evidence-based pedagogical practices. National Higher Education Teaching Conference, New York, NY.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Belkin, D. (June 2023). *From "should" to "must" Building a movement*. Invited to demonstrate best practices for crafting narratives and framing ideas for higher education change. National Higher Education Teaching Conference, New York, NY.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (April 2023). *It takes a village part II: What the campus community can do to recognize and address microaggressions*. Webinar for The Council of Independent College & Association of College and University Educators, Belong Network.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (August 2022). *Oral Communication Institute*. Faculty training on inclusion for Communication across the curriculum. St. Lawrence University.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (April 2022). *Pedagogy for inclusion*. Faculty training on inclusive teaching practices. Center for Teaching Excellence, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Eger, E. (April 2022). *Failures in qualitative research*. A presentation in Dr. Rebecca Rice's graduate Qualitative Research Methods course, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (March 2022). *Building inclusive communities through intergroup dialogue*. University of New Hampshire, Communication Department Research Colloquium.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Broeckelman-Post, M.A. (February 2022). *Crafting inclusive classrooms*. Top Hat Engage Conference, Georgia.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (February 2022). *Decolonizing general education*. Center for Speaking & Listening, DePauw University.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2021). *Inclusive and equitable instructional design: A foundation for student success*. Carnegie Math Pathways webinar. <https://carnegiemathpathways.org/>

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2021). *Difficult dialogues in teaching*. A virtual presentation in Dr. Sara Mathis's graduate Instructional Communication course, George Mason University.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (September 2021). *Supporting students and preparing parents for first-year college student success*. Parent Academy, Cal State LA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Nance, T.A. (July 2021). *Equity and Inclusive Teaching*. Invited workshop presented at the AASCU's inaugural Student Success Institute for Provosts. <https://ssi.aascu.org/>

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2020). *Inclusive Communication*. Tea for Teaching podcast from SUNY Oswego. <http://teaforteaching.com/episodes/>

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2020). *Preparing an inclusive online course*. Webinar panelist. Association of College and University Educators. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fOgoaLLhtwY&feature=youtu.be>

Ruiz-Mesa, K., & Eger, E. (September 2020). *Inclusive teaching practices for communication*. African American Communication and Culture Scholar Strike. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLB41OZfX6U&feature=youtu.be>

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (September 2020; April 2022; March 2023). *Effective communication: Public speaking for scientific talks*. Virtual presentation for Dr. Gianmarc Grazioli's undergraduate Chemistry Writing course, San José State University.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2019). *Navigating cross-cultural communication and conflict*. Villanova University Leadership Summit. Villanova University, Villanova, PA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2019). *Difficult dialogues in basic communication courses*. Virtual presentation for Dr. Melissa Brockelman-Post's graduate seminar in Instructional Communication. George Mason University.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2018). *Interviewing practices for inclusion*. Virtual presentation for Dr. Elizabeth Eger's graduate Qualitative Research Methods Seminar, Texas State University.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (August 2018, 2017, 2016). *Culturally responsive teaching*. Presented at the New Faculty Orientation. California State University, Los Angeles.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (June 2018). *Effective communication*. Professional Career Development Workshop for the National Organization of Professional Hispanic National Resource Conservation Service Employees. 2018 NOPHNRCSE-NEDC Joint Leadership and Technical Training Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (May 2018). *Leading a coordinated course*. Webcast presented to California State University faculty. CSU Chancellor's Office for Teaching and Learning, Long Beach, CA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (March 2018). *Inclusive leadership communication practices*. Diversity and Inclusion Faculty Fellows Inclusive Pedagogy Series. CETL, California State University, Los Angeles.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2017). *Inclusive pedagogy*. Professional Learning Community (PLC) webinar to California State University faculty. CSU Chancellor's Office, Long Beach, CA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (September 2017). *Platicas con profes*. Presented at the Chicax/Latinx Student Resource Center. California State University, Los Angeles.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (August 2017). *Keys to college success*. Presented to the incoming first-year and transfer students from the GEAR UP LA Orientation. California State University, Los Angeles.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (May 2017). *Having difficult conversations in the basic communication course*. Presented at the Basic Course Directors Conference, Bloomington, IL.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (April 2017). *Diffuse, defend, and support: Tools for coping with racial microaggressions on campus*. Presented at First to Finish Symposium. California State University, Los Angeles.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (April 2017). *Departmental support for faculty building culturally responsive teaching practice*. Presented for Department Chairs and Deans Development Series. California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (March 2017). *Diversity and inclusion in the classroom*. Virtual presentation for Dr. Melissa Brockelman-Post's graduate seminar in Instructional Communication. George Mason University, Washington, DC.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (October 2016). *Addressing racial microaggressions in the classroom*. Presented at New Faculty Development Meeting. California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (March 2016, co-presented with Dr. Luke LeFebvre). *Managing difficult discussions in the classroom*. Presented at the Basic Communication Course Directors Conference. Arlington, Virginia.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Sept. 2015). *Artfully managing your classroom*. Presented at the New Faculty Orientation. California State University, Los Angeles.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Sept. 2014). *New faculty experience and best practices*. Presented at the New Faculty Orientation. California State University, Los Angeles.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Nance, T. (June 2023). *Communicating equity in the classroom and across campus*. A selected presentation to demonstrate teaching and administrative practices to build an equitable campus. National Higher Education Teaching Conference, New York, NY.

McDonald, J. & Ruiz-Mesa, K. (April 2023). *Lessons from fieldwork at Undocumented Student Resource Centers: Best practices for supporting undocumented students in college-level teaching*. A competitively accepted paper presentation at the Qualitative Research in Management and Organization Conference, Albuquerque, N.M.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2021). *Transforming the classroom towards a race-conscious future: How COVID renews our commitment to equitable pedagogy*. A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2021). *Reflecting resilience in the basic communication course*. A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2021). *Transforming dialogues of difference: Intersectional pedagogical practices from GTAs of color* (Chair). A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2021). *Transforming critical communication pedagogy through LatCrit*. A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2021). *The Latino/a Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus mentoring initiative: Connections that facilitate academic surviving and thriving*. Invited mentor participant at the National Communication Association Conference, Seattle, WA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2021). *Top panel: Examining participation & engagement in the basic course* (Chair). A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2021). *Celebrating the enduring legacy and historic transformation of instructional communication and communication education scholarship: Renewing our path forward* (Respondent). A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (March 2021). *Inclusive and equitable by design: Quality instruction for student success*. A competitively accepted panel presented virtually at the AAC&U Diversity, Equity, and Student Success Conference.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2020). *Navigating the crossroads of social support sources and messages in the basic communication course*. A competitively accepted panel presented at the virtual National Communication Association Conference.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Feb. 2020). *Intersectionality in the basic communication course*. Presenter on a competitively accepted panel, Centering intersectionality and difference in communication studies pedagogy, presented at the Western States Communication Association Conference in Denver, CO.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2019). *Outwit, outplay, and outlast: Surviving the directorship of the foundational course*. A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Baltimore, MD

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2019). *Communication skills as survival: Stories of student empowerment from the BCD trenches*. A competitively accepted panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Baltimore, MD

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2019). *The Latino/a Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus mentoring initiative: Connections that facilitate academic surviving and thriving*. Invited mentor participant at the National Communication Association Conference in Baltimore, MD

Broeckelman-Post, M., Hunter, K.M., Westwick, J.N., Hosek, A., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, Hooker, J., & Anderson, L.B. (Nov. 2019). *Measuring essential learning outcomes for public speaking*. A competitively accepted paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Baltimore, MD

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (May 2019). *Administrative issues in the basic communication course*. A competitively selected panel presentation at the Basic Course Directors Conference in Sioux Falls, SD.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2018). *Cuentos, chistes, and dichos: Using humor to talk about loss with Cuban women in exile*. A competitively selected paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2018). *Revising the playbook: Decolonizing the core communication curriculum*. Invited Panelist for grant-funded pre-conference. National Communication Association Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2018). *Play civilly: Creative and innovative actions for engaging in civil discourse in the basic communication course*. Invited facilitator for NCA Short Course. National Communication Association Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2018). *Building communication skills for dismantling oppression: Supporting social change agents in public speaking classrooms at a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)*. A competitively selected panel at the National Communication Association Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2018). *Emotions at play: Portrayals of the multiple forms of emotion in basic communication course administration*. A competitively selected panel at the National Communication Association Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2018). *Writing an assessment playbook for the basic course*. A competitively selected panel at the National Communication Association Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Wang, C. (May 2018). *Communicating resistance: How undocumented students perform activism through visual counter-narratives on social media*. A competitively selected paper presented at the International Communication Association annual conference in Prague, Czech.

Ruiz-Mesa, K., & Martinez, J. (March 2018). *Communicative practices and framing strategies of Chief Diversity Officers in U.S. colleges and universities*. A competitively selected 90 min. research presentation at the National Association for Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE) annual conference in Washington, D.C.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2017). *“Bueno...ya tú sabes”*: Sharing gender, culture, and language with female Cuban political exiles. A competitively selected paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Dallas, TX.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2017). *Reaching out: Discussing the importance of forming collaborative relationships in basic course administration*. A competitively selected panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Dallas, TX.

Langner, G. & Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2017). *A case for intersectional queer pedagogy*. A competitively selected paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Dallas, TX.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Wang, C. (Oct. 2017). *From the shadows to social media: Exploring the imagery and representations of undocumented students in the United States*. A competitively selected paper presented at the International Conference of the Image in Venice, Italy.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (June 2017). *Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices for General Education Communication Courses*. A competitively selected paper presented at the STEAM and Education conference in Honolulu, HI.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2016). *Creating the climate for effective intra-group dialogues at a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)*. A competitively selected paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2016). *Learning the English language while speaking in the civic sphere: Challenge and opportunities of teaching the basic course with large multilingual student populations*. A competitively selected panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2016). *Teaching and performing democracy in the basic course: Challenges and Opportunities*. A competitively selected panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Feb. 2016). *Communicating diversity in college mission statements*. Paper presented at California State University, Los Angeles College of Arts and Letters Event at Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2015). *Challenging higher education from the inside: How a general education basic communication course can change a campus*. A competitively selected paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (Nov. 2015). *Embracing opportunity: Strategies for survival by students and faculty of color in White academic spaces*. A selected panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (May 2015). *Teaching gratitude and building academic confidence through peer non-verbal communication*. A teaching paper presented at the International Communication Association Conference in San Juan, P.R.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (May 2015). *Did you just see that? Using critical pedagogy and observation to teach about gender*. A teaching paper presented at the International Communication Association Conference in San Juan, P.R.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (March 2015). *Understanding microaggressions and working for student success, satisfaction, and graduation*. Session presented at the 18th CSU Symposium on University Teaching in Los Angeles, CA.

Del Rio, E., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, Perlmutter Bowen, S., Hall, M., Nance, T. (Nov. 2014). *On duty for diversity: communication professionals on the front lines of institutional diversity*. Panel to be presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Chicago, IL.

Dwyer, B., Nance, T, **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, Trainer, J., & Sheridan, S. (April 2014). *A blueprint for change: A case study of the campus racial climate of Mid-Atlantic University*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association National Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Ashcraft, C, Ashcraft, K., Buzzanell, P., Eger, E., Ganesh, S., Remke, R., Rivera, K., & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (Nov. 2013) *Creating organizational communication research connections with (and as) privileged allies in organizing difference and change at work*. Panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Washington, D.C.

Bowen, S., Dwyer, B., Foeman, A., Hall, M.L., Kanak, R., Lynch, C.O., **Ruiz-Mesa, K.**, Gliotti, R. Nance, T. (Nov. 2013). *Walking the talk of social justice: Connecting students through dialogue*. Panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Washington, D.C.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2012). *Communities of practice and discourses of a DREAM: How Congress and Fox News represent 'others' within the DREAM Act*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Orlando, FL.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2012). *Classroom communities for change: Critical pedagogy in the basic communication course*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Orlando, FL.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2012). *The façade of color-blindness: A look at the language of the American Civil Rights Institute*. Paper presented at the Western States Communication Association Conference in Albuquerque, N.M.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2011). *The shibboleth of worship: How voice and language divides a bilingual church community*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association Conference in New Orleans, LA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2010). *Improving retention through pre-college programs: An evaluation of the St. Thomas of Villanova Scholars (STOVS) program at Villanova University*. Session presented at the College Board "Prepárate" Conference in La Jolla, CA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2010). *Strategic planning & assessment for increasing racial diversity in a predominately White institution: A look at Villanova University*. Poster presented at the American Association of Colleges & Universities Conference on General Education and Assessment in Seattle, WA.

Nance, T., Hall, M., & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2009). *Pedagogy of disruption: A day in the life of a dialogic classroom*. Session presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Chicago, IL.

Ayllon, D. & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2009). *Cultural adaptation of Hispanic students in the United States*. Session presented at the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Conference in Orlando, FL.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Nance, T. (2009). *Diversity and democracy defining higher education for the 21st century*. Panel presented at the Eastern Communication Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Nance, T. & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2008). *Supporting students of color at predominately White institutions of higher education*. Panel presented at the National Communication Association Conference in San Diego, CA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2008). *Microaggressions experienced by students of color and increasing retention efforts at predominately White institutions of higher education*. Paper presented at the National Association for Multicultural Education International Conference in New Orleans, LA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2008). *Tales from Nineveh: Reflections of multicultural affairs directors at Catholic institutions of higher education*. Paper presented at the Association for Student Affairs at Catholic Colleges & Universities in Villanova, PA.

Torchon, M. Doorley, M. & **Ruiz-Mesa, K.** (2008). *It takes a village to raise a student*. Panel presented at the College Board “Preparate” Conference in Chicago, IL.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2008). *Diversity retention through micropractices* (Top Paper – Voices of Diversity). Paper presented at the Eastern Communication Association Conference in Pittsburgh, PA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. & Nunan, J. (2006). *Supporting student success in multicultural affairs offices*. Panel presented at the National Communication Association in San Antonio, TX.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2006). *Educational aspirations and attainment for Puerto Rican teenage mothers*. Paper presented at Second Communication Conference of the Americas, the pre-conference of National Communication Association Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2006). *Effects of institutional efforts in diversity and actual institutional diversity in American colleges and universities* (Top 5 Paper – Voices of Diversity). Paper presented at the Eastern Communication Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Ruiz-Mesa, K. (2006). *Communicating campus connections: Building bridges to support services that matter* (Top Panel- Voices of Diversity). Presented at the Eastern Communication Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

COURSES TAUGHT

- Oral Communication
- Intro to Communication Theory
- Perspectives on Human Communication
- Organizational Communication
- Sex & Gender in Language & Literature
- Sex Roles in Communication
- Feminism in Communication
- Business & Professional Communication
- Communication Capstone for Social Justice
- Communication Capstone for Business & Organizational Communication
- Speech Proficiency Assessment for Teachers
- Humanities Approaches to Race in U.S. (Honors)
- Humanities Theories in Comm. (Graduate)
- Qualitative & Rhetorical Methods (Graduate)
- Instructional Communication (Graduate)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Program of Excellence Award for COMM 1100, NCA Basic Course Division (2022-2023)
- Research Sabbatical for on environmental communication (Awarded, but not taken, 2023)
- Associate Grand Marshall, College of Arts & Letters, Cal State LA (2022)
- Provost's Faculty Fellowship for Research, Cal State LA, (2021-2022)
- Appointed Chair, IDEA Committee, NCA Basic Course Division (2021-2022)
- Courtesy Faculty Appointment, Environmental Studies Graduate Program, Oregon State University (2021-2026), directing M.S. project on environmental communication
- Top Paper, National Communication Association (NCA) Ethnography Division (2020)
- Outstanding Service Award, NCA Basic Course Division (2020)
- Cal State LA, Graduate School Faculty Mentor Honoree (2020)
- Elected to the Villanova University Alumni Association Board (2020-2023)
- Elected Chair of NCA Basic Course Division (2018-2019)
- Elected Vice-Chair of NCA Basic Course Division (2017-2018)
- Appointed as Co-Chair of the Public Speaking Measuring Learning Outcomes project with NCA and the Social Science Research Council, New York (2017-2018)
- Selected as a Faculty Fellow for Diversity and Inclusion, CETL (2018-2019)
- Invited to present research at President's Council Panel on Innovative Learning (2015)
- Cal State LA representative, ALASS Workshop on Latino Student Retention, D.C. (2015)
- College of Arts and Letters Banner Carrier at CSULA Honors Convocation (April 2015)
- Program for Affordable Learning Materials (PALM), Top 25 faculty at CSULA (2014)
- American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education Graduate Fellowship (2012)
- University of Colorado Communication Department Graduate Travel Grant (2012)
- Kappa Kappa Gamma Outstanding Teacher, University of Colorado, Boulder (2011)
- Top Paper – Eastern Communication Association (Voices of Diversity, 2006 & 2008)

ACADEMIC REVIEWER

- Editorial Review Board Member *Basic Communication Course Annual* (2015-present)
- Reviewer for *Management Communication Quarterly* (2020-present)
- Reviewer for *Communication Education* (2020-present)
- Reviewer for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) (2020-present)
- Editorial Board Member for *Special Topics on Race, Health Communication* (2019-2020)
- Reviewer for NCA Basic Course Division (2015-present)
- Reviewer for NCA Latina/Latino Communication Studies Division (2013- present)
- Reviewer for WSCA Communication, Identities, and Difference Division (2019-present)

- Reviewer for American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education Graduate Fellowships (2015-present)

SERVICE

- Career Day Speaker, Utah Elementary School, Boyle Heights, Los Angeles (2023)
- Member of University Graduation Initiative 2025 Consultation Group (2021-2022)
- Member of the University Distinguished Women Award Committee (2022-2023)
- Member of Department Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Committee (2019-2022)
- Member of Department Graduate Admissions Committee (2015-present)
- Doctoral Fellows Mentoring Coach, American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (2020-2022)
- SoCal Hero of the Week, Spectrum News 1 (2021). Pacific Marine Mammal Center volunteer work recognition.
- Faculty Mentor in the NCA Latina/x/o Studies Division (2017-present)
- Diversity & Inclusion Committee Member, Pacific Marine Mammal Center (2020-2023)
- Board Member, Villanova University Alumni Association (2020-2023)
- Member of the CETL Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board (2017-2020)
- Host for Social Justice/Politics COMM pathways, College Connect the Dots (2020)
- Gear UP summer bridge program faculty mentor for Cal State LA (2017-2018)
- College Faculty Representative for Mellon Undergraduate Fellows Visit (2017)
- Led Intercultural communication training for Cal State LA study trip to Colombia (2017)
- Translator for College Preparation Focus Groups for Go East L.A., CSULA (2016-2017)
- Vice Chair/Member of Academic Information Resources Sub-Committee (2015-2017)
- Board Member, CSULA Center for the Study of Genders and Sexualities (2014-2019)
- Invited to serve on the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Task Force (2016)
- Faculty Co-Advisor, Communication Honor Society, Lambda Pi Eta (2014-2017)
- Faculty representative at La Raza Graduation, CSULA (2016-2019)
- Career Day Speaker at Allesandro Elementary School, Los Angeles (Feb. 2015)
- M.A. Hooder at A&L graduation ceremony for Communication Studies (2015 & 2016)
- Application reviewer for the 2014 American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE) graduate fellowship program (2013-2018)
- Alumni interviewer for scholarship applicants for Villanova University (2010- 2018)
- Participant and respondent for the University of California Latino Workshop (2013)

THESIS & DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

Lopez, Annie. *Environmental volunteerism: Retention anchored in interpersonal communication*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2023. (M.A. Thesis) [Committee Member]

Noriega, Daniel. *Educating First-Generation Latino Male Graduate Students*. Department of Education, Chapman University. Expected May 2024. (Doctoral Dissertation Committee) [External Committee Member].

- Aguayo, Joanna. *“If You Don’t Help Me then Who Else Will?” The Impacts of Familismo on First-Generation Latino College Students*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2022. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]
- Hannouche, Rasha. *Invisible Identities at Work: Dealing with Dominant Culture as a SWANA Professional Woman*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2022. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]
- Tabatabai, Taraneh. *“This Type of Experience Is So Common, I am Really Desensitized To It”: Exploring Student Experiences with Racial Microaggressions at a Hispanic Serving Institution* Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2022. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]
- Stone, Charissa. *Identity in the Basic Communication Course*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2021. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]
- Guzmán, Salvador. *Race Talk: The Relational Impact of Colorblindness and Communicating about Race among Interracial Couples*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2021. (M.A. Thesis) [Member]
- Kunkle, Edward. *Racial Microaggressions in Bicultural Individuals*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2021. (M.A. Thesis) [Member]
- Ward, David Akili. *Hair Bias in the Workplace*. College of Business and Economics, California State University, Los Angeles, Dec. 2020. (M.S. Thesis) [Member]
- Aragón, Ashley. *Examining Latina Perceptions and the Communication Practices of Office Hours in U.S. Higher Education*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2019. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]
- Neal, Ashley. *Coming Out Undressed: A Communication Analysis of Strippers’ Disclosure of Their Occupation*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2019. (M.A. Thesis) [Co-Director w. Dr. Kamran Afary]
- Mendoza, Laura. *How LAPD Communicates and Implements Practices of Community Policing*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2019. (M.A. Thesis) [Member]
- Hanna, Lorén. *Ethnic Identity, Communication Apprehension, and Motivation to Communicate: An Analysis of Oral Communication Students*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, 2018. (M.A. Thesis). [Director]
- Jin, Mariana. *Identifying as a Person of Color and Cultural Competency as a Healthcare Provider*. Honors College, California State University, Los Angeles, 2018. (Senior Thesis) [Director]

Flores, Melissa. *Publics, Protests, and Pussy Power*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, 2018. (M.A. Thesis) [Member]

Aguirre, Selene. *Uncovering the Communicative Practices of U.S. Latinas in Higher Education*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, 2017. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]

Barco, J.E. *Building Academic Advisement Fit for First-generation Latino(a) college students at a Large Urban Institution*. Department of Education, California State University, Los Angeles, 2017. (Ed.D. Dissertation Committee) [External Member]

McDonald, Trevor. *Strategic Assessments as a Lifesaving Tool: An Examination of Expectancy Violation and Strategic Assessments as it Relates to Marine Safety*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, 2016. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]

Smith, Holland. *Using The Difference Dilemma as it Relates to Law, Communication, and Feminist Studies: An Examination of the Brandeis Briefs in Muller v. Oregon*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, 2016. (M.A. Thesis) [Director]

Black, Robert. *Blogging to Make Sense of the World: An Autoethnographic Approach*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, 2016. (M.A. Thesis) [Member]

Langner, Gregory. *Queering Animation and Performing Queer: The Manifestation of Performativity in Cartoon Animation through The Legend of Korra*. Department of Communication Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, 2016. (M.A. Thesis) [Member]

Serrano, Uriel. *A Hispanic Serving Institution "Under Construction:" The Experiences of Black and Latino Men with Campus Racial (Micro) Climates*. Department of Sociology, California State University, Los Angeles, 2016. (M.A. Thesis) [External Committee Member]

M.A. STUDENT MENTEES ACCEPTED TO DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

Recent M.A. students/mentees have been accepted to the following doctoral programs:

- University of Colorado, Boulder, Organizational Communication
- Arizona State University, Health Communication
- University of Georgia, Health Communication
- Rutgers University, Interpersonal Communication
- Temple University, Mass Communication
- Howard University, Race and Communication
- University of Maryland, Organizational Communication

- Ohio University, Instructional Communication
- George Mason University, Health/Interpersonal Communication
- University of Utah, Communication Rhetoric
- University of Denver, Communication Rhetoric
- Syracuse University, Mass Communication

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- National Communication Association
- International Communication Association
- Western States Communication Association
- Association of American College and Universities
- National Association for Diversity Officers in Higher Education
- American Association for Hispanics in Higher Education