



## Expert Sources from Minnesota’s Private Colleges

### MAY/JUNE

The member institutions of the Minnesota Private College Council are home to 17 communities of scholars who provide insight, analysis and expertise on a wide variety of news and events. Members of the media are invited to locate leading thinkers for expert commentary on a wide variety of issues and topics from this periodic listing of faculty experts. This listing includes resources on:

- Biology
- Communication Studies and Journalism
- Furniture Design
- Law Enforcement
- Nursing
- Political Science
- Race and Ethnicity
- Religion, Biblical and Theological Studies
- Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation

Biology			
Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<b>John Lammert</b> Associate Professor of Biology <b>Gustavus Adolphus College</b>	Immunology, Immune System, Food Poisoning, Microbiology, Pharmaceutical Side Effects. As bacteria, viruses and human diseases continue to develop and be prevalent in our society, there is a growing importance to the study of microbiology and immunology.	Lammert earned his B.A. in 1965 and his M.A. in 1968, both from Valparaiso. He earned his Ph.D. from Illinois in 1975. Lammert has taught at Gustavus since 1982 and teaches classes such as Principles of Biology, Microbes and Human Health, Microbiology and Immunology.	Matt Thomas Media Relations Manager 507-933-7510 news@gustavus.edu <a href="http://www.gustavus.edu/news/">http://www.gustavus.edu/news/</a>
<b>Amy Strohmeier Gort, Ph.D.</b> Associate Professor of Biology Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Chair of Biology Department <b>Concordia University, St. Paul</b>	1) Microbiology – specifically the areas of microbial genetics and bacterial pathogenesis; experimental expertise in molecular biology 2) Assessment of Student Learning – both general competencies and science-specific learning outcomes	In addition to teaching a wide range of biology courses, Dr. Gort has participated in research focused on oxidative damage to DNA in bacteria, determining the virulence factors necessary for systemic infection by <i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i> .  Currently Dr. Gort is engaged in research to study the link between the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and breast cancer.	Jennifer M. Johnson 651-641-8327 jmjohnson@csp.edu <a href="http://www.csp.edu/news/">http://www.csp.edu/news/</a>

Communication Studies and Journalism

Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<p><b>Dr. Mark Neuzil</b>                      Department of Communication and Journalism  <b>University of St. Thomas</b>                      (651) 962-5267                      mrneuzil@stthomas.edu</p>	<p>Neuzil is a resource on stories related to the changes underway in the newsrooms of Twin Cities newspapers, as well as the media in general.</p>	<p>He has been at St. Thomas since 1993 and specializes in the history of journalism and environmental journalism. He also is an author and veteran of newsrooms at daily newspapers and the Associated Press.</p>	<p>Jim Winterer                      St. Thomas News Service                      (651) 962-6404                      jwinterer@stthomas.edu</p>
<p><b>Kelly Berg</b>                      Assistant Professor of Communication  <b>College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University</b></p>	<p>Berg is well-versed on Facebook and on line communities. She has recently worked with two studies with College of Saint Benedict 2007 graduates Abbe Coen and Megan Mastrian regarding the role Facebook plays in the CSB/SJU community, and students' understanding of and familiarity with Facebook's privacy policy and their choices regarding trust and disclosure on the site.</p>	<p>She has been an assistant professor of communication at CSB/SJU since 2002. Berg received a bachelor's and her master's degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and her doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2002. She also has studied online fan communities and is in the process of writing a book chapter on sports fans' online interpretations of the NCAA basketball tournament.</p>	<p>Michael Hemmesch                      Media relations director                      College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University                      (320)-363-2595                      mhemmesch@csbsju.edu  <a href="http://www.csbsju.edu/news/">http://www.csbsju.edu/news/</a></p>

Furniture Design

Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<p><b>Professor Dean Wilson</b>                      Furniture Design  <b>Minneapolis College of Art and Design</b></p>	<p>Professor Wilson, one of MCAD's key faculty members for many years, is a master furniture craftsman as well as a highly informed observer of furniture design trends.</p>	<p>Professor Wilson holds an M.F.A. from the University of Minnesota and has exhibited widely across the United States. Among his clients have been the Minnesota Children's Museum, the Bakken Museum and Medtronic. He not only teaches students great design, but shows them how to make it work – in metal, wood, Fiberglas, etc. He has coached students to successfully compete in the annual Room &amp; Board design competition, with some designs being produced by the furniture company. His students have gone on to careers in both specialized and mass-market furniture design operations.</p>	<p>Michael Blumfield                      Director of Communications and External Relations                      612-874-3807                      612-419-4405 (cell)                      michael_blumfield@mcad.edu</p>

Law Enforcement			
Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<p><b>Donald S. Winger</b>  Dean, School of Professional Programs  Program Director, B.S. Police Science and M.A. Public Safety Administration  <b>Saint Mary's University of Minnesota</b>  dwinger@smumn.edu  (612) 728-5195</p>	<p>Winger has been a member of the Twin Cities law enforcement operations since 1972. He has expertise in the areas of Law Enforcement Administration and Leadership, Criminal Investigation, Community Outreach and Domestic Violence Intervention.</p>	<p>Winger was Chief of Police for the City of Maplewood Police Department from 1998 to 2002. Previously, he was a member of the City of Saint Paul Police Department from 1972 to 1998, service as a police officer, sergeant, lieutenant and commander. He is an experienced public speaker on local, state and national levels. Winger is active in his community, volunteering with Merrick County Services and the Saint Paul Domestic Intervention Project.</p>	<p>Clayton D. Tenquist  Executive Director of External Affairs  (612) 728-5199  tenquist@smumn.edu</p>
Nursing			
Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<p><b>Merri L. Moody, CRNA, MS</b>  Dean, School of Health and Human Services  Director/Assistant Professor, Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesia  <b>Saint Mary's University of Minnesota</b>  mmoody@smumn.edu  (612) 728-5133</p>	<p>Moody has been teaching nurse anesthetics since 1993 in a variety of settings. She has expertise in advanced practice nursing education, advanced practice nursing, Nurse Anesthesia and Anesthesia.</p>	<p>Moody has over 25 years of experience in the nursing and nurse anesthesia fields, including hands on clinical experience and teaching experience – working as a staff nurse, a nurse anesthetist, teaching and writing curriculum. She is a member of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists and the Minnesota Association of Nurse Anesthetists, where she is a member of the Education and Research Committee. Moody has also lectured on several topics relating to the Nurse Anesthesia field. She is a staff nurse anesthetist at Regions Hospital, where she is able to keep on top of current trends in the medical fields.</p>	<p>Clayton D. Tenquist  Executive Director of External Affairs  (612) 728-5199  tenquist@smumn.edu</p>

Political Science			
Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<p><b>Daniel Hofrenning</b>            Professor of Political Science  <b>St. Olaf College</b>            507-786-3128 (w)            507-786-4665 (h)            dhofrenn@stolaf.edu</p>	<p>U.S. politics, religion and politics,            public policy</p>	<p>Hofrenning, author of the book <i>In Washington But Not Of It: The Prophetic Politics of Religious Lobbyists</i>, teaches public policy and American politics. He most recently has been quoted by the <i>New York Times</i> and appeared on CNN's <i>Lou Dobbs</i> program. He also has provided commentary for MPR, KARE-11 and FOX-9. His opinion pieces have appeared in the <i>Minneapolis Star Tribune</i>, the <i>St. Paul Pioneer Press</i> and at MSNBC.com. He is a former president of the Minnesota Political Science Association.</p>	<p>David Gonnerman            St. Olaf media relations            507-786-3315            gonnermd@stolaf.edu</p>
<p><b>Adrienne E. Christiansen</b>            Associate Professor and Chair            Political Science  <b>Macalester College</b></p>	<p>Christiansen specializes in communications via computer, "war talk," feminism and the rhetoric of social movements. Most recently, she has been drawn to visual persuasion, particularly as manifested in editorial cartoons (of former Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura ) and in political monuments in Cyprus. Christiansen has also studied and written about contemporary conservatism, AIDS activists and the Persian Gulf War.</p>	<p>Christiansen teaches classes in American political communication: Rhetoric of Campaigns and Elections, Presidential Rhetoric, Women's Voices in Public Discourse, Rhetoric and Social Change, Digital Politics, Theories of Rhetoric, American Public Address, Freedom of Speech in a Mass Media Society, and The Politics of Public Space.</p> <p>Christiansen has been at Macalester since 1990.</p>	<p>Barbara Laskin            Media Relations            Macalester College            (651) 696-6451            laskin@macalester.edu  <a href="http://www.macalester.edu/college/relations/">http://www.macalester.edu/college/relations/</a></p>

Race and Ethnicity			
Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<b>Jane Rhodes</b> Dean for the Study of Race and Ethnicity American Studies <b>Macalester College</b>	Rhodes' research interests include race and mass media and African American history and culture.	She is a former newspaper and radio reporter and producer. Rhodes is the author of <i>Mary Ann Shadd Cary: The Black Press and Protest in the Nineteenth Century</i> . Her forthcoming book is <i>Framing the Panthers: Media, Race, and Representation in America</i> . She is also the author of a number of articles on race, journalism and mass communication. B.A., Syracuse University, 1977; M.A., Syracuse University, 1984; Ph.D., University of North Carolina, 1992. Rhodes has been at Macalester since 2005.	Barbara Laskin Media Relations Macalester College (651) 696-6451 laskin@macalester.edu <a href="http://www.macalester.edu/collegerelations/">http://www.macalester.edu/collegerelations/</a>
Religion, Biblical and Theological Studies			
Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<b>Jim Beilby</b> Biblical and Theological Studies <b>Bethel University</b>	Existence of God and apologetics; Contemporary theological issues/debates	Beilby is a well-published expert on contemporary theological issues and debates. He has participated in numerous public debates on the existence of God. He has authored or co-authored numerous books including: <i>Why Bother With Truth</i> (RZIM); <i>Divine Foreknowledge: Four Views</i> (InterVarsity); <i>Naturalism Defeated?</i> (Cornell University Press); and <i>Christian Apologetics</i> (Eerdmans), as well as numerous articles in journals such as <i>Faith and Philosophy</i> , <i>Religious Studies</i> , and <i>International Journal for Philosophy of Religion</i> .	Amanda Wanke Office of Communications and Marketing 651-638-6266 (work) 651-592-8203 (cell)
<b>Roy Hammerling</b> Religion <b>Concordia College</b>	Dr. Hammerling takes his theological knowledge and examines films—some that have very overt religious themes and others that are not as obvious.	Dr. Hammerling earned his bachelor's degree from Pacific Lutheran University and his Master's of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary. He earned a master's degree and doctorate from University of Notre Dame.	Amy Kelly News Bureau Director Concordia College akelly@cord.edu (218) 299-3642

Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation			
Expert	Expertise	Background	Media Relations Contact
<p><b>Paul Niemuth, PT, DSc, OCS, SCS, ATC/R</b>  Assistant Professor, Doctor of Physical Therapy Program  <b>College of St. Catherine</b>  peniemuth@stkate.edu  651-690-7981  651-430-2840</p>	<p>Dr. Niemuth's primary research interests are Sports Medicine related topics. He has been at the College of St. Catherine since 1997 and teaches course content in Diagnosis, Kinesiology, Musculoskeletal Systems, Clinical Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine.</p>	<p>Niemuth is a Certified Athletic Trainer and serves as the Assistant Athletic Trainer for The College of St. Catherine's athletic department. He is an adjunct faculty member at the Hennepin County Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship Program where he teaches physicians on orthopaedic and sports injury rehabilitation. He is the founder and former owner of Orthopaedic Sports, Inc., an outpatient Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Physical Therapy Clinic since 1978.</p>	<p>Julie Michener  Media Relations Manager  651-690-6521  651-253-8931  612-825-5766.  jcmichener@stkate.edu  www.stkate.edu</p>

**NOTES**

- o For back issues of Expert Sources, visit [www.mnprivatecolleges.org/media](http://www.mnprivatecolleges.org/media) -- where you will also find other information about private colleges, as well as links to all of the colleges own home pages.
- o For general media inquiries about private colleges, contact John Manning at the Minnesota Private College Council at 651-293-6805 or [jmanning@mnprivatecolleges.org](mailto:jmanning@mnprivatecolleges.org), or you can contact Kate Metzger at 651-293-6830 or [kmetzger@mnprivatecolleges.org](mailto:kmetzger@mnprivatecolleges.org).

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