

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### John C. Besley

Associate Professor and Journalism Sequence Head  
School of Journalism and Mass Communications  
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208  
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#### Degrees

*Doctor of Philosophy, Communication* August 2002 – August 2006  
Department of Communication  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

*Master of Arts, Public Administration* September 1998 – November 2000  
(*Innovation, Science and Environment Policy*)  
School of Public Policy and Administration  
Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

*Bachelor of Journalism* September 1994 – June 1998  
School of Journalism and Communication  
Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

#### Academic Work Experience

*Associate Professor* August 2011 – Current  
*Journalism and Mass Communication Sequence Head* August 2010 – Current  
*Assistant Professor* August 2006 – August 2011  
School of Journalism and Mass Communications  
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

*Summer Lecturer, Teaching and Research Assistant* August 2002 – July 2006  
Department of Communication  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

*Teaching Assistant* September 1998 – May 2000  
School of Journalism and Communication  
Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

#### Professional Experience

*Policy Analyst* June 2000 – August 2002  
Policy and Communications Branch & June – August, 1999  
Environment Canada, Gatineau, QC

Primary focus was the development of strategic messaging for use in briefing materials, talking points and speeches for senior public servants and the Minister of the Environment during participation in bilateral and multilateral international discussions, including meetings of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Group of Eight (G8), and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

*General Assignment and Freelance Reporter* 1996 – 2000  
St. Catharines Standard, The Ottawa Citizen, The Ottawa Sun, The Globe and Mail

#### Areas of Teaching Expertise

- Civic engagement and deliberation
- Political communication
- Public opinion/Social persuasion
- Media and society
- Social science research methods
- Science communication
- Health communication
- Environmental communication
- Risk/Crisis communication

## External Grants

- 2011-2016: Co-Investigator, United States Department of Agriculture, *Reducing losses to potato and tomato late blight by monitoring pathogen populations, improved resistant plants, education, and extension*, PI: H. Judelson (\$9 million)
- 2011-2012: Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation, *RAPID Grant: The Impact of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster on Public Views about Nuclear Power in the United States* (\$43,000)
- 2010-2011: Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation, *RAPID Grant: The Impact of the BP Oil Spill on Views towards Nuclear Energy* (\$30,405)
- 2010-2011: Co-Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation, *Reactions to Nanotechnology*, PI: C. Toumey (\$179,722)
- 2008-2009: Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation, Decision, Risk, and Management Sciences. *Small Grant for Exploratory Research: Testing the Role of Morality Judgments on the Impact of Procedural and Outcome Fairness Perceptions in the Context of Public Hearings about Nuclear Energy* (\$30,597)
- 2007-2008: Co-Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation – Nanotechnology Exploratory Research, PI: S. H. Priest (\$128,739)
- 2007: University of South Carolina – Center for Teaching Excellence grant on inquiry based learning (\$3,500)
- 2007: University of South Carolina – College of Mass Communication and Information Science summer research grant (\$3,000)
- 2005-2006: Co-Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation (Decision, Risk, and Management Sciences) *Doctoral Dissertation Research: Procedural Justice and Media Coverage of Public Engagement about Local Health and Environmental Risks*, PI: K. A. McComas (\$6,000)
- 2005-2006: Graduate Fellowship, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (\$20,000 CDN)

## Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- Besley, J. C. & Nisbet, M. A. (In Press). How scientists view the public, the media, and the political process. *Public Understanding of Science*. Appeared online August 30, 2011.
- Besley, J. C. (In press). Imagining public engagement. *Public Understanding of Science*. Appeared online November 1, 2010.
- Tanner, A. H., Forde, K. R., Besley, J. C. & Weir, T. (Accepted). Broadcast Journalism Education and the Capstone Experience. *Journalism and Mass Communication Educator*.
- Kim, S. H., Kim, J. N. & Besley, J. C. (Accepted). Pathways to Support Genetically Modified (GM) Foods in South Korea: Deliberate Reasoning, Information Shortcuts, and the Role of Formal Education. *Public Understanding of Science*.
- Foster, C. F. Thrasher, J. F., Kim, S. H., Besley, J. C., Rose, I. & Navarro, A. (Accepted). Agenda-building influences on the news media's coverage of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's push to regulate Tobacco, 1993-2009. *Journal of Health and Human Services Administration*.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. A. & Trumbo, C. W. (2012). Citizen views about public meetings. *Journal of Risk Research*, 15(4), 355-372.
- Besley, J. C. (2012). Does fair process matter when it comes to public acceptance of risk decision-making? *Risk Analysis*, 32(1), 25-38.
- McComas, K. A., & Besley, J. C. (2011). Fairness and Nanotechnology Concern. *Risk Analysis*, 31(11), 1749-1761.
- Besley, J. C. & Tanner, A.H. (2011) What science communication scholars think about training scientists to communicate. *Science Communication*, 33(2), 239-263.
- McComas, K. A., Lundell, H. C., Trumbo, C. W. & Besley, J. C. (2010). Public meetings about local cancer clusters: Exploring the relative influence of official versus symbolic risk messages on attendees' post-meeting concern. *Journal of Risk Research*, 13(6), 753-770.
- Besley, J. C. & Baxter-Clemmons, S. (2010). Analysis of South Carolina hydrogen and fuel cell workers' views and opinion leadership behavior: A waiting opportunity? *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, 35(16), 8407-8416.
- Besley, J. C. & Roberts, M.C. (2010) Cuts in newspaper staffs change meeting coverage. *Newspaper Research Journal* 32(3), 22-35.
- Besley, J. C. (2010). Public engagement on nuclear technology and the impact of fairness perceptions in decision favorability and approval. *Science Communication* 32(2), 256-280.

- Thrasher, J. F., Besley, J. C. & Gonzalez, W. (2010). Perceived justice and popular support for public health laws: A case study around comprehensive smoke-free legislation in Mexico City. *Social Science & Medicine*, 70(5), 787-793.
- Friedman, D. B., Crews, T. B., Caicedo, J. M., Besley, J. C., Weinberg, J. & Freeman, M. L. (2010). An exploration into inquiry-based learning by a multidisciplinary group of higher education faculty. *Higher Education*, 59(6), 765-783.
- Besley, J. C. & Roberts, M. C. (2010). Qualitative interviews with journalists about deliberative public engagement. *Journalism Practice*, 4(1), 66-81.
- McComas, K. A., Besley, J. C. & Black, L. W. (2010). The rituals of public meetings. *Public Administration Review* 70(1), 122-130.
- Besley, J. C. (2010). Review: Current Research on Public Perceptions of Nanotechnology. *Emerging Health Threats Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.eht-journal.net/index.php/ehtj/article/viewArticle/7098>.
- Besley, J. C. & Diels, J. (2009). Public meetings in entertainment television programming: Using procedural justice to analyze fictional civic participation. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 53(3), 419-443.
- Besley, J. C., Kramer, V. L., Yao, Q. & Toumey, C. P. (2008). Interpersonal discussion following citizen engagement on emerging technology. *Science Communication*, 30(4), 209-235.
- McComas, K. A., Besley, J. C. & Yang, Z. (2008). Risky business: The perceived justice of local scientists and community support for their research. *Risk Analysis*, 28(6), 1539-1552.
- Besley, J. C. (2008). Media use and human values. *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, 85(2), 311-330.
- Besley, J. C., Kramer, V. & Priest, S. H. (2008). Expert opinion on nanotechnology: Risk, benefits, and regulation. *Journal of Nanoparticle Research*, 10(4), 549-558.
- Kuzma, J. & Besley, J. C. (2008). Ethics of Risk Analysis and Regulatory Review: From Bio- to Nanotechnology. *NanoEthics*, 2(2), 149-162.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. A. & Trumbo, C. W. (2008). Local newspaper coverage of health authority fairness during cancer cluster investigations. *Science Communication*, 29(4), 498-521.
- Trumbo, C. W., McComas, K. A. & Besley, J. C., (2008). Individual- and community-level effects on risk perception in cancer cluster investigations. *Risk Analysis*, 28(1), 161-178.
- Llaguno-Aguilar, S. E., Dorantes-Alonso, A. D., Thrasher, J. F., Villalobos, V. & Besley, J. C. (2008). Analysis of coverage of the tobacco issue in Mexican print media. *Salud Publica De Mexico*, 50, S348-S354.
- Besley, J. C. & McComas, K. A. (2007). Reporting on fairness in civic life: Interviews with journalists about writing on local political leaders. *Journalism Practice*, 1(3), 339-355.
- McComas, K. A., Trumbo, C. W. & Besley, J. C. (2007). Public meetings about suspected cancer clusters: The impact of voice, interactional justice, and risk perception on attendees' attitudes in six communities. *Journal of Health Communication*, 12(6), 527-549.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. A. & Waks, L. H. (2006). Media use and the perceived justice of local science authorities." *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, 83(4), 801-818.
- McComas, K. A., Besley, J. C. & Trumbo, C. W. (2006). Why citizens do and don't attend public meetings about possible local cancer clusters. *Policy Studies Journal*, 34(4), 671-698.
- Besley, J. C. (2006) The role of entertainment television and its interactions with individual values in explaining political participation. *Harvard International Journal of Press/Politics*, 11(2), 41-62.
- Besley, J. C. & McComas, K. A. (2005). Framing justice: Using the concept of procedural justice to advance political communication research. *Communication Theory*, 4(4), 414-436.
- Besley, J. C. & Shanahan, J. (2005) Exploring the relationship between media attention and exposure and support for agricultural biotechnology. *Science Communication*, 26(4), 347-367.
- Besley, J. C. & Shanahan, J. (2004). Skepticism about media effects concerning the environment: Examining Lomborg's hypotheses. *Society and Natural Resources*, 17(10), 861-880.

### Book Chapters/Sections

- Besley, J. C. (2010). "Public engagement," "Deliberative polling," and "social Justice." In S. H. Priest (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Science and Technology Communication* (p. 11, pp. 45-50, pp. 144-145). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Besley, J. C. (2009). Focusing on fairness in science and risk communication. In L. Kahlor & P. Stout (Eds.), *Communicating Science: New Agendas in Science Communication* (pp. 68-87). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- McComas, K. A., Arvai, J. L. & Besley, J. C. (2009). Linking Public Participation and Decision Making through Risk Communication. In R. L. Heath & D. H. O'Hair (Eds.), *Handbook of Crisis and Risk Communication* (pp. 364-385). New York, NY: Routledge.

Newton, K. & Besley, J. C. (2006). Developing sustainability in the knowledge based economy: Prospects and potential. In *Sustainable Production: Building Canadian Capacity* (pp. 67-82). G. Toner & D. V. Bell (eds). Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press.

### Conference Presentations

- Besley, J.C. & McComas, K. A. (2012). Comparing views about Nanotechnology and Nuclear Energy. Research to be presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Phoenix, AZ.
- Kim, S. H., Kim, J. N. & Besley, J. C. (Accepted). Pathways to Support Genetically Modified (GM) Foods in South Korea: Deliberate Reasoning, Information Shortcuts, and the Role of Formal Education. Paper to be presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Phoenix, AZ.
- Besley, J. C. (2012). The dynamics of public opinion about nuclear energy. Research presented at the annual meeting of American Association for the Advancement of Science, Vancouver, BC.\*
- Besley, J. C. (2011). Nuclear energy and the contingent impact of media attention. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Charleston, SC.\*
- Besley, J. C. (2011). Nuclear energy and the contingent impact of media attention. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Charleston, SC.\*
- Besley, J. C. & Oh, S. H. (2011). *Predicting Scientists Participation in Public Life*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, St. Louis, MO (3<sup>rd</sup> Place Faculty Paper).
- Besley, J. C. & Oh, S. H. (2011). *The Impact of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill on Views about Nuclear Energy and the Importance of Exploring Conditional Relationships*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, St. Louis, MO.
- Tanner, A. H., Forde, K. R., Besley, J. C. Weir, T. *Broadcast Journalism Education and the Capstone Experience*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, St. Louis, MO.
- Besley, J. C. (2010). *Imagining Public Meetings*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Salt Lake City, UT.\*
- Besley, J. C. & McComas, K. A. (2010). *Support for nuclear power and the perceived fairness of government, industry, and university decision-makers*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Salt Lake City, UT.\*
- Besley, J. C. & Tanner, A. H. (2010). *What science communication scholars think about training scientists to communicate*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Denver, CO.
- Besley, J. C. (2009). *Public engagement on nuclear technology and the impact of fairness perceptions in decision favorability and approval*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Baltimore, MD.\*
- Besley, J. C. & Roberts, M. C. (2009). *Qualitative interviews with local newspaper journalists about public meetings: Changing circumstances and unchanged expectations*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Boston, MA.
- Besley, J. C., Whiteman, D. & Duhe, S. H. (2009). *Communication behavior and subjective environmental norms*. Research presented at the Conference on Communication and the Environment, Portland, ME.
- Besley, J. C. & Roberts, M. C. (2009). *Qualitative interviews with journalists about deliberative public engagement*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. A. & Trumbo, C. W. (2008). *Citizen views about public meetings*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Boston, MA.\*
- Besley, J. C., Kramer, V. L., Yao, Q. & Toumey, C. P. (2008). *Interpersonal discussion following citizen engagement about nanotechnology: What, if anything, do they say?* Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Chicago, IL.
- Kramer, V. L. & Besley, J. C. (2008). *Assessment of a university-based program of citizen engagement on emerging technologies*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Chicago, IL.
- Besley, J. C. *Media exposure and core values*. (2008). Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Montreal, QC.
- Trumbo, C. W., McComas, K. A. & Besley, J. C. (2008). *A multilevel analysis of cancer risk perception*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Montreal, QC.
- Besley, J. C. & Kramer, V. (2008). *Evaluation of a novel form of citizen engagement on hydrogen and fuel cell technology*. Research presented at the NHA Annual Hydrogen Conference, Sacramento, CA.\*

- Besley, J. C. & McComas, K. A. (2008). *Focusing on fairness in science and risk communication*. Research presented at the symposium on New Agendas in Science Communication, Austin, TX.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. & Trumbo, C. W. (2007). *Citizens' perception of the fairness of local scientists and its relationship to nanotechnology concern*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, San Antonio, TX.\*
- McComas, K., Foster, M. W., Trumbo, C. W. & Besley, J. C. (2007). *Exploring the notion of public meetings as social stations of risk amplification*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, San Antonio, TX.\*
- McComas, K. A., Besley, J. C. & Yang, Z. (2007). *The Perceived justice of local scientists and community support for their research*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Washington, DC.
- Besley, J. C. & Diels, J. (2007). *Public meetings in entertainment television programming: Using procedural justice to analyze fictional civic participation*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Washington, DC.
- McComas, K. A. & Besley, J. C. (2007). *Beyond political efficacy: The rituals of environmental public meetings*. Research presented at the Conference on Communication and Environment, Chicago, IL.\*
- Besley, John C., McComas, K. A. & Waks, L. H. (2007). *Media use and the perceived justice of local science authorities*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Besley, John C. & McComas, K. A. (2007). *Reporting on fairness in civic life: Interviews with journalists about writing on local Political leaders*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.
- McComas, K. A., Trumbo, C. W. & Besley, J. C. (2007). *Examining the perceived efficacy of public meetings held during local cancer cluster investigations*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. A. & Trumbo, C. W. (2006). *Public meetings about suspected cancer clusters: the impact of voice, interactional justice, and risk perception on attendees' attitudes in six communities*. Research presented at the 2006 annual meeting of the National Communication Association, San Antonio, TX.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. A. & Trumbo, C. W. (2006). *Exploring media use and procedural fairness perceptions in the context of local cancer cluster investigations*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, San Francisco, CA.
- Besley, J. C. (2006). *Exploring media content for procedural fairness in the context of local cancer cluster investigations*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, San Francisco, CA.
- Shanahan, J., Besley, J. C. & Nisbet, E. C. (2006). *Trends in public opinion on agricultural biotechnology*. Research presented to the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, St. Louis, MO.\*
- Besley, J. C. (2005) *The Role of entertainment television and its interactions with individual values in explaining political participation*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, New York, NY (Top 3 Student Paper in Political Communication).
- Besley, J. C. & McComas, K. A. (2005). *Framing Justice: Using the concept of procedural justice to advance political communication research*. Research presented at the 2005 annual meeting of the International Communication Association, New York, NY.
- Shanahan, J., Nisbet, E. C., Diels, J. Hardy, B. W. & Besley, J. C. (2005). *Cultural indicators: Integrating measures of meaning with economic and social indicators*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, New York, NY.
- Besley, J. C., McComas, K. A. & Trumbo, C. W. (2004). *A content analysis of newspaper coverage about public meetings on cancer clusters*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Palm Springs CA.\*
- Besley, J. C. & McComas, K. A. (2004). *Newspaper coverage of public meetings: A baseline content analysis*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication, Toronto, ON.
- Besley, J. C. (2004). *Science knowledge as negative predictor of anti-democratic attitudes: Racism, sexism, homophobia and willingness to suppress free speech*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, Phoenix AZ.

Besley, J. C. & Shanahan, J. (2004). *Exploring the relationship between media attention and exposure and support for agricultural biotechnology*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Besley, J. C., Diels, J. & Nisbet, E. C. (2003). *Voting and authoritarianism: The mediating role of media use, discussion, efficacy and trust*. Research presented at the Annual meeting of the Midwest Association of Public Opinion Research, Chicago IL (Honorable Mention, Student Paper Competition).

Besley, J. C. (2003). *The relationships between willingness to pay for environmental protection and issue specific concern*. Research presented at the annual meeting of the World Association of Public Opinion Research, Prague, Czech Republic.

\*Paper accepted based on peer-reviewed abstract.

### **Book Reviews**

Besley, J. C. (2009) Book Review: Davids, K. & Thompson, P. B. (Eds.) *What Can Nanotechnology Learn from Biotechnology?* Amsterdam, the Netherlands: Academic Press, 2008. *Science Communication*, 30(3), 417-419

Besley, J. C. (2008) Book Review: Siegrist, M. Earle, T. C. & Gutscher, H. (Eds). *Trust in Cooperative Risk Management: Uncertainty and Scepticism in the Public Mind*. UK: Earthscan, 2007. *Risk Analysis* 28(6), 1769-1770.

Besley, J. C. (2007). Book Review: Hunt, G. & Mehta, M. (Eds). *Nanotechnology: Risk, Ethics, and Law*. London, UK: Earthscan, 2006. *Science Communication*, 28, 528-530

Besley, J. C. (2006). Book Review: Callaghan, K. and Schnell, F. (Eds.). *Framing American Politics*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2005. *Mass Communication & Society*, 9, 485-487.

### **Association Memberships**

- International Communication Association
- Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
  - 2007-2008: Professional Freedom and Responsibility Chair, Science Communication Interest Group
  - 2008-2009: Research Chair, Science Communication Interest Group
  - 2009-2010: Vice Head, Communicating Science, Health, Environment, and Risk Interest Group
  - 2010-2011: Head, Communicating Science, Health, Environment, and Risk Interest Group
- Society for Risk Analysis
  - 2008-2012: Communications Committee member

### **Service Activities**

#### *Organizations*

- Peer reviewer, National Science Board, Chapter 7: Science and Technology: Public Attitudes and Understanding. *2012 Science and Engineering Indicators* (2011)
- Consensus Panel, International Consensus Conference on Risk-Based Decision Making for Blood Safety (2010)
- Member, National Science Foundation, Expert Workshop on Measurement and Operationalization of the “Science in the Service of Citizens & Consumers Framework” (2010)
- Member, National Science Foundation, Expert Workshop on Public Knowledge of Science (2010)
- Member, National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network, Social and Ethical Issues Advisory Board (2009-)
- Member, Institute of Medicine, Committee to Review Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry’s Great Lakes Report (2008)
- Member, Department of Energy Ethical, Legal, and Societal Implications of Research on Alternative Bio-energy Technologies, Synthetic genomics, and Nanotechnologies (2007 Grant Proposal Review Panel)

### *Journal Reviewing*

- *Science Communication* (2006-2012, Editorial board member starting in 2009); *Health Psychology* (2012); *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* (2009-2011); *Mass Communication & Society* (2007-2011); *Public Understanding of Science* (2009-2011); *Risk Analysis* (2010-2011); *American Journal of Public Health* (2010-2011); *Health Communication* (2011); *Parliamentary Affairs* (2011); *Communication Yearbook* (2011); *Communication Monographs* (2011); *State and Local Government Review* (2008, 2011); *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly* (2010); *Environmental Communication* (2010); *Urban Studies* (2010); *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media* (2009); *Public Understanding of Science* (2009); *Journal of Environmental Management* (2009); *Journalism Studies* (2009); *Journal of Human and Ecological Assessment* (2009); *Canadian Journal of Public Health* (2009).

### *Conferences*

- Annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (2006-2011); Annual meeting of the International Communication Association (2006-2011); Mid-winter meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (2007).

### **References**

Dr. Katherine A. McComas  
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