

Matt Cecil, Ph.D.

Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
University of Wisconsin-Parkside
Kenosha, WI

Dr. Matt Cecil has more than 17 years of higher education leadership experience in roles ranging from department head to school director, dean, and provost. Cecil currently serves as Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Before that, Cecil served as Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Northern Kentucky University, a 16,000-student regional public university boasting Kentucky's largest nursing programs. He served as a dean and then as Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Minnesota State University, Mankato, the 15,000-student flagship of the Minnesota State system. He also held faculty positions at Purdue University, the University of Oklahoma, South Dakota State University, and Wichita State University. He is the author of three books exploring the relationship between federal law enforcement and the media.

Cecil's executive leadership focuses on future-proofing universities by expanding high-demand programs, enhancing student success and belonging, and facilitating external partnerships. Most recently, he has led UW-Parkside's AI strategy, advancing the university's goal of universal AI fluency by 2028.

A native of Brookings, South Dakota, Cecil earned his Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the University of Iowa. He holds a Master of Arts in History from Minnesota State University, Mankato, and a Bachelor of Science in History from South Dakota State University.

Matt Cecil, Ph.D.

Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, Wisconsin

August 2024-present

- Enrollment, 4,100
- Manage an Academic and Student Affairs budget of \$50 million within a university budget of \$100 million
- Supervise seven direct reports and oversee 120 full-time faculty, 100 part-time faculty, and approximately 30 staff members
- Serve on Chancellor's Cabinet; manage the cabinet on behalf of the Chancellor; participate in management and setting the strategic direction of the university
- Act on behalf of the Chancellor and represent her in her absence from campus
- Oversee the academic college, the university's research enterprise and graduate programs, multiple centers, library services, global education, enrollment management, student engagement, student inclusiveness, student success, the Student Center, Parkside Works (strategic partnerships), and other units
- Represent the University with business executives, public officials, community leaders, legislators, county executives, superintendents, donors, members of the Board of Regents, Universities of Wisconsin staff, and other key stakeholders

Special Advisor to the President

Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, Kentucky

January 2024-July 2024

- Enrollment, 16,000
- Reviewed finances of the university's online education activities, including examination of the institution's existing offerings in light of market demand and competition
- Created a framework in which to assess the quality of online offerings and the student experience consistent with the institution's existing review policies and processes.
- Assisted in supporting the university's \$43 million annual collaboration with its online education partner, Risepoint
- Provided recommendations regarding institutional leadership roles and organizational structure related to best practices within the industry
- Examined other opportunities to further improve the university's online programs and overall enrollment mix
- Moved into an advisory role from the provost position immediately after a transition in presidential leadership

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, Kentucky

July 2021-January 2024

- Enrollment, 16,000
- Managed an Academic and Student Affairs budget of \$160 million within a university budget of \$280 million

- Supervised 19 direct reports on Provost's staff and oversaw 500 full-time faculty, 400 part-time faculty and approximately 200 staff members
- Served on Executive Leadership Team; manage the ELT on behalf of the president; participate in management and setting the strategic direction of the university
- Acted on behalf of the President and represent them in their absence from campus
- Oversaw academic colleges, the university's research enterprise and graduate programs, multiple centers, library services, global education, student engagement, student inclusiveness, student success, student wellness, the Student Union, Veterans Resource Station, and other units
- Represented the University with business executives, public officials, community leaders, superintendents, donors, members of the Board of Regents, and other key stakeholders
- Student Affairs merged into Academic Affairs to create a combined Division of Academic and Student Affairs, May 2023
- Led the work to eliminate a \$31.7 million budget shortfall that resulted in a balanced FY25 budget, 2022-2024

Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Minnesota State University, Mankato, Mankato, Minnesota

December 2019-July 2021

Enrollment, 15,700

- Managed an Academic Affairs budget of more than \$120 million
- Supervised Provost's staff of 15 and oversaw more than 600 faculty and 200 staff members
- Served on cabinet, participated in management of the university
- Acted on behalf of the President in his absence
- Oversaw six academic colleges, the university's research enterprise and graduate college, library services, global education, other academic units
- Led the work to close a \$5 million budget deficit, 2020-2021
- Participated in system-wide planning for Minnesota State Colleges & Universities
- Represented the University with business executives, public officials, community leaders, members of the Board of Trustees, Minnesota State Colleges & Universities staff, and other stakeholders

Dean, College of Arts & Humanities

Minnesota State University, Mankato, Mankato, Minnesota

June 2016-December 2019

- Art, Communication Studies, English, Humanities, Interdisciplinary Studies, Mass Media, Music, Philosophy, Scandinavian Studies, Theatre & Dance, World Languages & Cultures, School of Communication
- 120 full-time faculty among an instructional and college staff of 170
- 2,000 students majored in the college's programs
- 80,000 student credit hours generated annually
- More than 600 degrees awarded annually
- Managed a \$9.35 million Andreas Endowment
- Annual budget of \$14 million

Director and Professor, Elliott School of Communication

Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas

- Urban research university enrolling approximately 17,000 students.
- Integrated mass communication and communication studies
- 450 majors in five undergraduate emphases and two graduate programs
- Supervised 36 instructional FTEs including 17 full-time faculty members
- Annual budget \$2.5 million

Assistant Department Head, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota

August 2012-May 2013

- Rural, land-grant university enrolling approximately 12,000 students.
- Provided administrative support to department head
- Supervised ten full-time faculty
- 300 majors in undergraduate and two graduate programs

Acting Department Head, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota

- Managed budget, scheduling, planning, student engagement
- Supervised ten full-time faculty
- Planned and executed events

Associate Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota

August 2007 to May 2013

Emphasis Coordinator, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota

August 2008 to May 2011

Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota

August 2005 to August 2007

Assistant Professor, Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication

The University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

August 2002 to August 2005

Assistant Professor, Department of Communication

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

August 2000 to May 2002

Education

Doctor of Philosophy, Mass Communication

The University of Iowa School of Journalism and Mass Communication, 2000

- Area of Emphasis: Public Relations
- Dissertation: “Seductions of Spin: Public Relations and the FBI Myth”
- Runner-up, Nafziger Dissertation Award, American Journalism Historians Association
Advisors: Professor Jeffery A. Smith, Associate Professor Dan Berkowitz

Master of Arts, History

Minnesota State University, Mankato, 1997

Thesis: “‘In the Eyes of Men’: Ben and Stella Mae Dickson and the FBI Myth” Advisor: Professor Charles K. Piehl

Bachelor of Science, History

South Dakota State University, 1995

Administration

University of Wisconsin-Parkside

Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

- Along with the Chancellor, proposed and led a reorganization of the university’s academic and student affairs units to reduce administrative overhead, create a more agile structure, foster collaboration and innovation and establish more centralized fiscal and operational accountability. Faculty Senate unanimously approved the merging of four colleges into one on April 1, 2025; UW System Board of Regents approved the plan on June 5, 2025. Hired a Senior Vice Provost and Dean of the Faculty, June 6, 2025. The new, single college, organizational structure went live on July 1, 2025.
- Renegotiated the university’s contract with OPM, Risepoint, obtaining a more favorable revenue share and a Risepoint-funded enrollment process improvement position on our campus.
- Led implementation of six undergraduate accelerated online programs to start in Fall 2025 with at several more planned for Fall 2026.
- Along with the Chancellor, led creation of Parkside Works, a strategic partnerships hub aimed at enhancing workforce partnerships, expanding continuing and customized education, stewarding existing partnerships, and creating a new line of business for the institution. ParksideWorks was officially established on July 1, 2025.
- Leading the work to overhaul transfer processes to facilitate matriculation of adult and transfer students to Parkside
- Along with the Chancellor and CFO, led a process to close a roughly \$2.1 million structural budget shortfall in FY25. The university ended FY25 with a \$3.7 million fund balance. A balanced FY26 budget was presented to the UW System Board of Regents in August 2025.
- Led one of seven Universities of Wisconsin system “future of higher education” teams, specifically looking at the higher education workforce of the future.

- One of three provosts named to a workgroup to propose regental policy changes to require general education transferability among UW system institutions. This work, mandated by the Wisconsin Legislature, began in July 2025 and will be complete with a new set of core general education requirements by early September 2025. The new requirements will be implemented by every campus by September 1, 2026.

Northern Kentucky University
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Student Success/Coordinated Care

- Established First-Year Student Success Hub, including 12 first-year advisors
- Hub boasts student/advisor ratios of 150/1
- Every first-year student assigned an advisor, peer mentor, and faculty mentor Advisors trained for basic mental health and financial literacy referrals
- Hub coordinates the entire first-year experience
- Hub advisors coordinate handoff to college professional advisors
- Retention increased by 7 percent in the following two years
- Established Adult and Transfer Center to better serve NKU's 2,000+ transfer students and increase adult and transfer enrollment pipelines; result was a 60 percent increase in transfer students year-over-year, with more than 890 transfer students joining the university in fall 2024.
- Established a Pipeline Coordination Committee to coordinate efforts with admissions and the colleges
- Established an Academic Commons task force led by the Faculty Senate President to assess academic supports alignment with student needs and create a one-stop academic support center in Steely Library. Commons established effective July 1, 2023, with two fiscal years to move and create supports within a one-stop center. The new president halted the project in spring 2024.
- First-year Experience Task Force overhauled the entire first-year experience, including the Common Experience, UNV 101, coordinated care models, peer mentors for all first-year students, career preparation, and a first-year student success hub
- Degree, Co-Curricular, and Career Mapping project – at least one major mapped for every department
- Advising and Coordinated Care – centralized advising practices and coordinated handoff and communication between the hub and college advising center
- Oversaw establishment of High Impact Practices training workshops with more than 150 faculty participating
- Oversaw EAB Moon Shot for Equity work on Holds Reform, Emergency and Retention Awards, and Transfer Pathways
- University-wide Program Review revised in 2021 and rolled out in fall 2022
- Signed graduate-level agreements with universities in India, the Republic of Georgia, and Egypt
- Oversaw general education assessment and reform efforts, including the appointment of a Director of General Education
- Initiated proposal to pay off \$660,000 in student COVID-19 balances and provide \$250 bookstore vouchers to every NKU student from the institutional portion of federal funds, Fall 2021

Morale and Engagement

- Formed a team of researchers that conducted a Faculty and Staff Engagement and Morale Study, and produced a set of recommendations, the first of which were enacted in spring 2024
- Addressed faculty salary compression with a \$500,000 investment followed by an annual \$100,000 equity funding and review process
- Increased the part-time faculty pay scale, and expanded benefits to all full-time faculty upon hire
- Produced a guide for supporting and sponsoring international faculty to improve retention
- Provided professional empathy training to improve communication issues and campus climate. Approximately 70 faculty and staff took part in those workshops.

Equity and Belonging

- Cluster hire for First-Year Student Success Hub resulted in a diverse advising team
- Approved multiple opportunity hires and retention offers for under-represented faculty
- Convened an Equity in Promotion and Tenure working group to develop a plan for more equitable practices in P&T
- Created a provost's fellow position to develop an implicit bias course required for faculty promotion and tenure committees and reviewers, rolled out in August 2021
- Updated the annual RPT presentation to highlight that teaching was paramount at all levels of reappointment, promotion, and tenure; that NKU valued transdisciplinary and non-traditional research that may happen in other venues than scholarly journals; and that extraordinary amounts of service, especially in equity and inclusion efforts, was valued as much as scholarship and creative activity

Budget and Finance

- Co-led with the CFO the creation of a budget and finance plan to address what began as a \$24 million budget shortfall in FY23 and held more than 100 small group meetings with more than 1,200 attendees to discuss the plan and respond to questions o Eliminated 100 full-time faculty positions through attrition, a separation incentive, and retrenchment of 17 non-tenure track faculty positions. Through enrollment challenges, that gap grew to \$31.7 million before we balanced the budget.
- Required salary savings of \$3.9 million in FY23, \$2.5 million in FY24
- Operational and instructional reductions, reallocations, and reduced expenses for FY23, FY24, and FY25 totaling approximately \$30 million within Academic and Student Affairs; Approximately \$45 million campus-wide

Enrollment Management

- Supervised the university's Chief Enrollment Strategy Officer
- Oversaw move of Enrollment Management from Academic Affairs to Student Affairs in Summer 2022 and then to the Office of the President in Spring 2023
- Provided new investment in international student recruiting, \$200,000 resulting in a record 150student incoming international student class in Fall 2022
- Provided new investment in pipeline services through EAB, \$700,000, Fall 2021

Minnesota State University, Mankato
Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Student Success/Coordinated Care

- Worked with VP colleagues, faculty, staff, and bargaining units to centralize professional advising services within the Division of Student Success

Enrollment Management

- Provided an additional \$300,000 investment in international student recruitment, Spring 2021; MSU, Mankato enrolls approximately 1,300 international students
- Provided an additional \$100,000 investment in marketing for graduate programs in Spring 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021, and graduate enrollment grew by about 10 percent
- Invested in three additional Aviation program positions during budget cuts. That program has grown by 200 students in the years since.

Budget and Finance

- Cut \$5 million from Academic Affairs, August 2020 to July 2021
- Reduced 30 faculty positions through attrition
- Eliminated one Vice President position among nearly \$1 million in administrative position reductions
- Combined two colleges into a single College of Humanities, and Social Sciences.
- Met in small groups with more than 700 campus stakeholders to discuss the cuts and learn about impacts of individual academic and service units

Minnesota State University, Mankato
Dean, College of Arts & Humanities

Student Success/Coordinated Care

- Led staff and faculty in creating a pre-registration system for new Arts & Humanities students. Starting in Fall 2020, new students will be pre-registered in three foundational general education courses, English Composition, Public Speaking, and a required Mathematics course.
- Led faculty in creating of a School of Communication, combining departments of Communication Studies and Mass Media, with participation from faculty in Graphic Design, Technical Communication, Music Industry, Philosophy, World Languages & Cultures, and English. Reorganization to create the school took place on July 1, 2019.
- Led faculty in proposing a School of Creative & Performing Arts, combining departments of Theatre & Dance, Music, and Art & Design with participation from Creative Writing faculty. Faculty have continued their conversations (delayed by COVID) into 2021.
- Led a College of Arts & Humanities team participating in the HLC Student Success Academy, 2018-2021. Efforts in the college are focused on eliminating registration barriers for new and transfer students, building belonging among CAH majors, and engaging faculty more deeply in student success activities.
- Established a pilot program, general education cohort, the Arts & Humanities Exploratory Track, in which 25 students are placed in six general education courses together. Based on assessments of that first cohort, the program was revamped as a general education pre-registration program for the Fall of 2020.

- Established incentives for full-time faculty to teach at the 100-level in the curriculum. As a result the number of sections at the 100-level taught by full-time faculty increased from 64 in fall 2018 to more than 100 in fall 2019.
- Created a Student Success Workgroup made up of faculty, staff, and students with a goal of making our college the most student-centered, student-friendly culture on campus. The workgroup is charged with eliminating barriers to student success and proposing initiatives to enhance retention, completion, and closing the achievement gap. 2017-2018. That work resulted in the elimination of barriers like an admission to major requirements for all but three programs in the college along with a grant of upper-level permission to register for courses for all students who have completed at least 30 credits.
- Created a student success initiative based on three metrics that are predictive indicators of student retention from year one to year two. Identified at-risk students based on first semester GPA, high school GPA, and minority status and implemented individualized academic advising programs for those students, 2016-present
- Created a graduate teaching assistant position aimed at a minority hire and focused on intervening with supplemental instruction for a high-failure rate general education course, 2017. As a result of that experience, we determined that while intrusive advising efforts are effective, graduate students are not necessarily equipped to handle those interventions effectively.
- Focused on enhancing the student experience in the college, working with advisers to add online advising scheduling and front office check-in (for data collection and workflow improvements), 2016-2017
- Began a series of community-building events with dual goals of enhancing communication across disciplines and sparking interdisciplinary collaboration. Events include interdisciplinary faculty colloquia, on- and off-campus social events, and faculty and staff lunches. 2017-present.
- Began a series of artist-in-residence events, Minnesota Storytellers, with three day residencies and a public performance. Artists who have joined us for the residency include: Martin Zellar & the Hardways, Dave Simonette of Trampled By Turtles, Jeremy Messersmith, and hip hop artist Dessa.

Equity and Belonging

- Established an Equity/Inclusion Committee in the college along with a list of Equity Champions. One Equity Champion was added to every search committee starting Spring 2019.
- Worked with faculty from the Departments of World Languages & Cultures, American Indigenous Studies, and English to provide ongoing funding and support for four Dakota language courses at the 100- and 200-levels, 2016

Programming

- Led, with Associate Provost Brian Martensen, the creation of MinnPoly: The Minnesota Polytechnic and Applied Learning Institute, 2020.

Budget and Finance

- Oversaw budget cuts of \$1.25 million (from a \$15.5 million budget) in 2018-2019, while still investing in five new/replacement faculty positions; implemented \$850,000 in cuts in 2016-

2017. Accomplished cuts through attrition, small equipment and operating budget cuts, and a significant reduction in adjunct expenditures.

Organization/General Administration

- Created a Director of Communication and Endowed Programs position to manage the proceeds of the \$9.4 million Andreas Endowment and provide communication support for the college, 2017
- Expanded scope of Interdisciplinary Studies Program to include a series of plans of study including Music Industry, Integrated Marketing Communication, and others, 2016-present
- Hired a second full-time academic advisor for the college, July 2016.
- Hired a second front-office staff person for the college, September 2016.
- Led the university's effort to establish tested experience credentialing standard in response to Higher Learning Commission accreditation reaffirmation report, Fall 2016.

Wichita State University

Director of the Elliott School of Communication

- Developed laptop computer requirement approved by Elliott School of Communication faculty on February 10, 2014 that began in Fall 2014
- Managed significant curriculum revisions/additions, including:
 - Revision of the school's core curriculum, 2013
 - Addition of experiential courses in Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015 and Fall 2015
 - Designation of two new general education courses that enrolled 135 in the spring of 2014, 135 in Fall 204 and 145 in spring 2015.
 - Revision of graduate and undergraduate curriculum, eliminating all 2-credit courses
 - Reduced emphasis-area curricula to 15 credits.
- Established the Ad Astra Communication Agency, a student-staffed communication enterprise within the Elliott School of Communication. Ad Astra (renamed ShockerAdLab) provides communication and marketing services to the campus community and to Wichita-area nonprofits. Established in Fall 2014, Ad Astra moved into a newly repurposed office in January 2015. Spring 2015 billings exceeded \$10,000, the majority of that for focus group research.
- Created, with faculty, new Sports Marketing and Production and Digital Filmmaking plans of study in the Elliott School of Communication
- Created, in collaboration with WSU Athletics, the Shocker Sports Project, a senior-level sports production and marketing course. ESC students create the ESPN3 stream for all Shocker home sports events, shadow event staff, and work on camera, scoreboard and other media crews during events (Fall 2014)
- More than doubled online course student credit hour production between 2013 and 2016
- Established an interdisciplinary program with the Wichita State University Department of Human Performance Studies and particularly with the Human Performance Laboratory, an entrepreneurial facility engaged in testing and developing fitness and human performance projects. In Fall 2014, collaborated with Human Performance faculty to create an interdisciplinary plan of study involving communication students (graduate and undergraduates) as media creators and advisors to entrepreneurs developing businesses in the Human Performance Laboratory.
- Revised and expanded the Sales minor in collaboration with the Barton School of Business

- Worked with WSU Information Technology Services to create a basic speech course assessment data entry web portal and pilot exit exam
- Inaugurated Elliott School of Communication Internship and Employment Fair, February 17, 2014.
- The event was attended by 30 Wichita-area employers and more than 150 students in 2014 and by 36 employers (including new attendees from Kansas City and Oklahoma City) and 200 students in 2015.
- Planned and coordinated the first ESC Scholarship and Awards Banquet, April 28, 2014. More than
- 200 people attended the event. The 2015 and 2016 events were similarly successful
- Planned and coordinated Comm Week 2013, 2014, and 2015 with events attended by more than 400 people each year
- Initiated alumni outreach events in Fall 2013 with a meet-up at Public in Wichita. Second alumni event at WSU baseball game, March 25, 2014, was attended by approximately 50 alums. The events held in 2015 have been similarly well-attended
- Solicited a \$50,000 gift from Sullivan, Higdon & Sink advertising agency to remodel Elliott Hall room 234 and managed the remodeling project (Fall 2013, Spring 2014)
- Created a two-camera video production studio in Elliott Hall. This space includes a full production switcher, two cameras, LED lighting and the ability to produce interviews and two-person productions
- Created a focus group research space in Elliott Hall, including digital video recording and remote monitoring capabilities
- Tripled the square footage in Elliott Hall devoted to WSU Debate and added an assistant debate coach, 2014
- Established ad-hoc committees to review Elliott Hall space utilization and the Elliott School's faculty committee structure. As a result of space utilization committee, all instructional personnel were consolidated on the second floor and all student activities were moved to the basement
- Supervised staff of 36 instructional FTEs (including 17 full-time faculty) and four staff FTEs. Managed budget exceeding \$2.5 million including several endowed funds, June 2013 to 2016
- Developed, through a faculty survey and four faculty meetings, a five-year strategic positioning statement for the ESC, Fall, Spring 2014
- Supervised the creation of an Elliott School branding campaign, "Experience. We get it." along with a new logo and promotional materials, Fall 2013
- Managed and supervised a dramatic expansion in enrollment in the school's basic speech course created by cohort scheduling, Fall 2014 (from 700 to 1,100 students), Fall 2015
- Moved production of basic speech course workbook from McGraw-Hill to on-campus production, decreasing costs to students while nearly doubling royalty payments to the ESC from \$4,000 to \$7,500, Spring 2015
- Coordinated scheduling of courses enrolling nearly 3,000 students and generating nearly 13,000 student credit hours in 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016
- Expanded faculty by 6.0 FTEs in 2014-2015 (total instructional FTEs, fall 2014, 40)
- Hired and trained a new administrative specialist and budget analyst, spring 2014
- Initiated call for faculty technology and evaluation process to formalize faculty technology requests, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015

- Restructured Elliott School staff to include a 3/4 FTE Outreach and Recruiting Coordinator responsible for managing relationships with alumni, local media businesses, and other key stakeholders
- Implemented an alumni survey in Spring 2014 to facilitate planning and gauge interest in online graduate programs

South Dakota State University

Acting/Assistant Department Head

- Managed class and room scheduling, 2012-2013
- Assisted in supervision a faculty of 10 along with the Yeager Media Center Staff (3.0 FTEs), 2012-2013.
- Managed social media including creation of Facebook page and LinkedIn group, 2008-2013.
- Assisted Dr. Mary Arnold and Dr. Lyle Olson in creation of self-study and coordination of reaccreditation of SDSU Department of Journalism and Mass Communication by the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, 2011, 2012.
- Organized 2010 Scholarship and Awards Banquet, SDSU Department of Journalism and Mass Communication.
- Organized 2010 Internship Fair, SDSU Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, January 2010.
- Assisted Dr. Mary Arnold in repurposing SDSU Foundation funding for the Yeager Media Center. Assisted in the design and creation of the Yeager Media Center, a \$400,000 HD television production studio, 2009-2011

Professional Development/Leadership Training

- EAB Future Presidents Intensive, 2024
Three-month program, Fall 2024
- CivicLab Stakeholder Engagement Lab, sponsored by Higher Expectations of Racine County, Relationships-based systems-building seminar, October 29, 30, 2024
- Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Executive Leadership Development Program
Year-long program, 2018-2019
- CASE Development for Deans and Academic Leaders Conference
Fort Myers, Fla., February 1-3, 2017
- Art of Supervision, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Granite Falls, Minn., December 7-9, 2016
- Science of Supervision, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Marshall, Minn., October 21, 2016
- Education Advisory Board Academic Leadership Summits
 - Washington, D.C., October 20-21, 2016
 - Washington, D.C., February 15-16, 2017
 - Washington, D.C., March 7-8, 2019
- CCAS Seminar for New Deans
Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Chicago, Ill., July 24-27, 2016
- Fellow, WSU Leadership Academy
One-year leadership development program based on the Kansas Leadership Center curriculum for adaptive leadership, 2014-2015
- Professional Fundraising Workshop for Deans, Department Chairs and Aspiring Academic Leaders

- Presented by Advancement Resources and sponsored by the WSU Foundation, April 1, 2014
- Leadership Seminar for Department Chairs
Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences, San Diego, Calif., October 5-7, 2014
- Leadership Elite Certificate
Center for Management Development, W. Frank Barton School of Business
Wichita State University, Fall 2013
- Scripps-Howard Academic Leadership Academy
Manship School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Louisiana State University, Baton, Rouge, La., June 4-8, 2007

Research

Books

- Cecil, Matthew. *Hoover's FBI and the Fourth Estate: The Campaign to Control the Press and the Bureau's Image* (Lawrence, Kan.: University Press of Kansas, 2014). 368 pp.
 - 2015 AEJMC History Division Book of the Year Award winner
 - 2015 Kappa Tau Alpha Frank Luther Mott Research Award, runner-up
- Cecil, Matthew. *J. Edgar Branding Hoover's FBI: How the Boss's PR Men Sold the Bureau to America*. (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, fall 2016). 344 pp.
- Cecil, Matthew. *The Ballad of Ben and Stella Mae: Great Plains Outlaws Who Became FBI Public Enemies Nos. 1 and 2*. (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, Fall 2016). 184 pp.

Book chapter

- Cecil, Matthew. "The Coercion of Consent: The Manipulative Potential of FBI Public Relations During the J. Edgar Hoover Era," in St. John, Burton, Margot Opdycke Lamme and Jacquie L'Etang, eds., *Pathways to Public Relations History* (Routledge Books, March 2014), 77-90.
 - *Pathways to Public Relations* was a 2015 AEJMC Tankard Book Award finalist

Refereed Publications

- Cecil, Matthew, "Unveiling the Sick Elephant: CIA Public Relations and the Soviet Economic Forecast Controversy of 1964," *American Journalism*, no. 1 (Winter 2019): 171-195.
- Cecil, Matthew, "The Man Under the Bed: J. Edgar Hoover's 1958 Book *Masters of Deceit* and the Revival of Anti-Communist Identity in America," *American Journalism*, 34, no. 1 (Winter 2017): 49-70.
- Cecil, Matthew, Jessica Freeman, Jennifer Tiernan, "Jackals, Vultures, Scavengers, and Scoundrels: FBI Public Relations and J. Edgar Hoover's Handwritten 'Blue Gems'," *Journalism History*, 43, no. 1 (Spring 2017): 2-11.
- Cecil, Matthew, "Coming on Like Gang Busters: J. Edgar Hoover's FBI and the Battle to Control Radio Portrayals of the Bureau, 1936-1958." *Journalism History*, 40, no. 4 (Winter 2015), 252-261.

- Cecil, Matthew: “Whoa, Edgar!: The Des Moines Register and Tribune, Cowles Publications, and J. Edgar Hoover’s FBI,” *The Annals of Iowa*, 71, no. 2 (Spring 2012): 111-126.
- Cecil, Matthew, “Friends of the Bureau: Personal Correspondence and the Cultivation of Journalist Adjuncts by J. Edgar Hoover’s FBI,” *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, 88, no. 2 (Summer 2011): 267-284.
- Cecil, Matthew, “The Path to Madness: McCarthyism and New York Post Editor James A. Wechsler’s Battle for Press Freedom,” *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, 35, no. 3 (July 2011): 275-291.
- Cecil, Matthew, “Monotonous Tale: Legitimacy, Public Relations, and the Shooting of a Public Enemy,” *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, 28, no. 2 (April 2004): 157-170.
- Cecil, Matthew, “‘Press Every Angle’: FBI Public Relations and the ‘Smear Campaign’ of 1958.” *American Journalism*, 19 no. 1 (Winter 2002): 39-58.
- Cecil, Matthew, “Bad Apples: Paradigm Overhaul and the CNN/Time ‘Tailwind’ Story.” *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, 26, no. 1 (October, 2001): 46-58. (9th most frequently cited article ever published in JCI as of 1/1/11.)
- Cecil, Matthew, “‘In the Eyes of Men’: Ben and Stella Mae Dickson, Bank Robbers.” *South Dakota History* 29, no. 2 (Summer 1999): 155-173.
- Cecil, Matthew, “‘Justice in Heaven’: The Trial and Execution of Ann Bilansky.” *Minnesota History* 55, no. 8 (Winter 1997-1998): 350-363.
- Cecil, Matthew, “Democratic Party Politics and the South Dakota Income Tax, 1933-1942.” *South Dakota History* 26 (Summer, Fall 1996): 137-169.

Popular Entertainment

- Cecil, Matthew (Scriptwriter), “J. Edgar Hoover’s FBI,” *Wondery Media*, *American History Tellers* podcast series. Six 40-minute episodes. Published April 10, 2019 to May 15, 2019 at <https://wondery.com/shows/american-history-tellers/>; ~200,000 listeners per episode.

Internal Grants*

- South Dakota State University, Graduate School Research Grant, for FBI research, Fall 2012, \$1,500.
- South Dakota State University, College of Arts & Sciences, Active Learning Cloud grant for development of an iPhone/iPad application, Fall 2010, \$1,000
- South Dakota State University Academic and Scholarly Excellence Program, ACEJMC Accreditation Proposal (with Dr. Mary Arnold), Fall 2010, \$7,000.
- South Dakota State University, Distance and Extended Education Course Development Grant, Summer 2010, \$3,000.
- South Dakota State University Academic and Scholarly Excellence Program, planning for Media Production Suite remodel (with Dr. Mary Arnold), Fall 2009, \$6,000.
- University of Oklahoma, Vice President for Research, Junior Faculty Research Program Grant, for summer research, 2004 (\$6,000)
- University of Oklahoma, Vice President for Research, Faculty Grant Fund, Fall 2003: for research travel to Knoxville, Tenn. (\$910)
- University of Oklahoma, Gaylord College Junior Faculty Grant, Summer 2003; for research on a book project (\$3,200)
- University of Oklahoma, Vice President for Research, Faculty Grant Fund, Fall 2002: for research travel to Madison, Wisconsin (\$906)

- Purdue University, School of Liberal Arts, Summer Faculty Grant, for research resulting in a published paper, Summer 2002 (\$6,000)
- Purdue University, School of Liberal Arts, Dean's Incentive Grant, Fall 2001: for research in FBI files (\$705)
- Purdue University, School of Liberal Arts, Dean's Incentive Grant, Spring 2001: For research in FBI files (\$585)
- Purdue University, School of Liberal Arts, Dean's Special Library Purchases Grant, Spring 2001: For the purchase of previously-released FBI files (\$1,200)
- Purdue University, Library Scholars Program Award, Fall 2000: For purchase of books related to research program (\$150)

External Grants*

- With Roxanne Lucchesi, Principal Investigator, South Dakota Department of Health, QuitLine study, 2009-2010 (\$30,000).
- Ward Neff Internship, Society of Professional Journalists, 2007-2009. Provided grant funding for one graduate student each year for two years, plus a stipend for the supervising professor and travel funds for the national SPJ Convention. (\$78,000)
- 2006 Native American Media Symposium grant, Ethics & Excellence in Journalism Foundation, Oklahoma City, Okla., to stage a symposium in Brookings in October 2006 (\$40,000)
- With Fred Blevens: Ward Neff Internship, Society of Professional Journalists, 2004-2006. (\$39,000)
- State Historical Society of Iowa Research Grants, May 2000: For the completion of a manuscript based on FBI research (\$1,500)

*Total internal and external grant funding: \$220,656

Awards and Honors, Research

- 2015 History Book Award, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication for Hoover's FBI and the Fourth Estate
- 2015 Kappa Tau Alpha Frank Luther Mott Research Award, runner-up
- Thomas A. Daschle Research Fellowship, South Dakota State University, College of Arts & Sciences, January to May, 2011.
- American Journalism Historians Association Nafziger Dissertation Award, runner-up, 2001
- Carl J. Nelson Award for Research, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, The University of Iowa, 2000 (\$500)
- Journal of Communication Inquiry Editor's Fellowship, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, The University of Iowa, 1999 (\$500)
- J.Y Bryan Prize for Published Research, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, The University of Iowa, 1998 (\$500)
- Herbert S. Schell Award, South Dakota Governor's Awards for History, South Dakota State Historical Society, 1997 (\$500)
- Schultz-Werth Award for Research, South Dakota State University, 1995 (\$2,000)