

**Michael Nienaber, Jr.**  
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Michael Nienaber, a native of McKenzie, Tennessee, is currently pursuing a Master's Degree of Science in Community Development at Delta State University.

He serves as the men's basketball contact in the Office of Athletic Media Relations, proving that the MSCD program attracts students from all corners of the University family. As primary media contact for the Statesmen basketball programs, Michael is responsible for press releases, publications, statistical collection, and game-day operations. He joined the Community Development program at the suggestion of his boss, Athletic Media Relations Director, Matt Jones... himself a 2007 graduate of the program.

Michael's research interests include, but are not limited to the following: public policy in development, globalization, organizational effectiveness, environmental and natural resource management, social capital, and sustainable development.

Before coming to the Delta, Michael received his Bachelor of Arts in History (with a minor in Political Science) from Christian Brothers University in Memphis. He hopes to combine this with his MSCD as a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. State Department. "This program gives me a practical base of experience that I can use to help further 'community' around the world... the classes are interesting, the professors engaging, and the classmates supportive – its a great environment in which to learn."

*Arbeit macht Spaß!*