

Leslie J. Harris

Professor
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Address:
Johnston Hall 226
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413
E-mail: HarrisL@uwm.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., December 2006

Northwestern University—Evanston, Illinois
Area of Study: Communication Studies, Rhetoric and Public Culture
Certificate: Gender Studies
Dissertation Advisor: David Zarefsky

M.A., June 2003

Northwestern University—Evanston, Illinois
Area of Study: Communication Studies, Rhetoric and Public Culture
Committee Chair: Michael Leff

B.S., June 2001

Northwestern University—Evanston, Illinois
Majors: Communication Studies and Gender Studies
Thesis Director: Michael Leff
Graduation Honors:
Summa cum Laude
Excellence in Communication Studies
Departmental Honors—Communication Studies

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication, 2023-present

Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication, 2014-2023

Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication, 2007-2014

Visiting Assistant Professor, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL, Communication Department, 2006-2007

Instructor, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL, Communication Department, Spring 2005-2006

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Harris Leslie J. *The Rhetoric of White Slavery and the Making of National Identity*. Michigan State University Press, 2023.
 *Recipient of the Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award (Public Address Division of the National Communication Association)

Harris, Leslie J. *State of the Marital Union: Rhetoric, Identity, and Nineteenth-Century Marriage Controversies*, Baylor University Press. 2014.

Journal Articles:

Mudambi, Anjana & Leslie J. Harris. "Feminist Relational Agency and the Cultural Contestation of Heteronormative Gender Norms in the Indian American Diaspora." *Women's Studies In Communication* (2024).
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07491409.2024.2366175>

Harris, Leslie J. & Erin Sahlstein Parcell. "Gun Violence Rhetoric in Milwaukee: Racialized Violence and the Creation of Urban Space." *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1080/14791420.2024.2376361>

Harris, Leslie J. & Kathryn Olson. "The Problem of Woman Suffrage: The Rhetorical Traps of Conditional Citizenship." *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* 24.4 (2021): 581-611.

Harris, Leslie J. & Jansen Warner. "Forensic Rhetoric and Racial Justice: Rhetorical Advocacy in *The Reason Why the Colored American is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition*." *Communication Studies*, 72.4 (2021): 618-633.

Harris, Leslie J. "Whores" and "Hottentots": Protection of (White) Women and White Supremacy in Anti-suffrage Rhetoric. *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, 106.3 (2020): 253-257.

Harris, Leslie J., "Rhetorical Mobilities and the City: The White Slavery Controversy and Racialized Protection of Women in the US." *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, 104.1 (2018): 22-46.

McDonough, Marnie Lawler, Laurie Marks, and Leslie J. Harris, "'A Truly Inspiring Notion': A Case-Study of Project-Based Graduate Service-Learning." *Partnerships: A Journal of Service-Learning and Civic Engagement*. 8.2 (2017): 63-78.

Harris, Leslie J. and Sang-Yeon Kim, "'True' Americans and 'Violent' Immigrants: Making Sense of Wife Murder in the Nineteenth-Century United States." *Immigrants and Minorities: Historical Studies in Ethnicity, Migration, and Diaspora*, 33.1. (2015): 66-91.

Harris, Leslie J. "Law as Father: Metaphors of Family in Nineteenth-Century Law." *Communication Studies*. 61 (2010): 526-542.

Harris, Leslie J. "Motherhood, Race, and Gender: The Rhetoric of Women's Antislavery Activism in the *Liberty Bell* Giftbooks." *Women's Studies in Communication*. 32 (Fall 2009): 293-319.

Harris, Leslie J. "The Court, Child Custody, and Social Change: The Rhetorical Role of Precedent in a 19th Century Child Custody Decision." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*. 34 (Winter 2004): 29-45.

Chapters:

Harris, Leslie J., "Home-Making, Nation-Making: American Womanhood in Progressive Era Presidential Rhetoric." In *Reading the Presidency: Advances in Presidential Rhetoric*, edited by Stephen J. Heidt and Mary E. Stuckey, 281-299. New York: Peter Lang, 2019.

Harris, Leslie J. "Archival Analysis." In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods*, Edited by Mike Allen, 45-46. Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications, 2017.

Harris, Leslie J. and Mike Allen. "The Paradox of Authentic Identity: Mormon Women and the Nineteenth Century Polygamy Controversy." In *Reasoned Argument and Social Change*, edited by Robert Rowland, 340-47. Washington D.C.: National Communication Association, 2011.

Harris, Leslie J. and Kimberly Smith. "Feminists for Life and the Appropriation of History." In *The Functions of Argument and Social Context*, edited by Dennis S. Gouran, 158-163. Washington D.C.: National Communication Association, 2010.

Harris, Leslie J. "Torn from Her Very Bosom: Melodramatic Argument in Nineteenth Century Law." In *Engaging Argument*, edited by Patricia Riley, 293-298. Washington: National Communication Association, 2006.

Public Humanities Project:

Cobb, Portia, Debra Gillispie, Leslie J. Harris, & Erin Sahlstein Parcell. *Voices of Gun Violence*. www.uwm.edu/gunviolenceproject

Translational Article:

Harris, Leslie J., & Anna Harris, "What the Threat of Gun Violence Has Taught a Generation of American Children." *Gender Policy Report*, (September 2020) <https://genderpolicyreport.umn.edu/what-the-threat-of-gun-violence-has-taught-a-generation-of-american-children/>.

Book Reviews:

Harris, Leslie J. Review of *Practicing Citizenship: Women's Rhetoric at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair*, by Kristy Maddux, *Quarterly Journal of Speech*. 106.3 (2020).

Harris, Leslie J. Review of *How to Belong: Women's Agency in a Transnational World*, Belinda A. Stillion Southard, *Quarterly Journal of Speech*. 105.3 (2019): 360-363.

Harris, Leslie J. Review of Sager, Robin C., *Marital Cruelty in Antebellum America*. H-SHEAR, H-Net Reviews. (September 2016). URL: <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=47274>

AWARDS

2024 Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award for outstanding published scholarship in public address, National Communication Association

The Rhetoric of White Slavery and the Making of National Identity

2024 Top Four Paper Award, Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group, Central States Communication Association

“Disrupting the Arrow of Time: The Rhetoric of Gun Violence in Southeastern Wisconsin” co-authored with Erin Parcell

2022 Wrage-Baskerville Award for Top Paper in Public Address, National Communication Association

“Sex Trafficking and Transnational Flow: Protecting White Womanhood as a Rhetoric of Containment”

2021 UWM Faculty Distinguished Public Service Award, with Portia Cobb and Erin Parcell

2020 Warren Mentorship Award, Central States Communication Association

2019 Top Four Paper, Rhetoric and Public Address Division, Southern States Communication Association

“Maternal Pain and Public Action: The Rhetoric of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America”

2018 Wrage-Baskerville Award for Top Paper in Public Address, National Communication Association

“Recognition, Shame, and Racial Justice: Black American Appeals for Inclusion at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition,” co-authored with Jansen Werner

2013 Assessment Showcase, 1st place departmental entry, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, with Sang-Yeon Kim, and Nancy Burrell

2010-2011 University of Wisconsin Libraries Research Fellow

2009-2010 Center Scholars in Teaching and Learning (with J. Johnson, K. Dindia, H. Song, and J. Jordan), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2004 Donald H. and Caroline C. Ecroyd Dissertation Year Fellowship,
Communication Studies, Northwestern University (one of two awarded)

2002 James L. Golden Outstanding Student Essay in Rhetoric, Laureate Group,
Bowling Green State University

2001-2002 Graduate School Fellowship, Northwestern University

2001 Summa cum Laude, Excellence in Communication Studies, and Departmental Honors—Communication Studies, Northwestern University

2001 Roy V. Wood Scholarship, School of Speech, Northwestern University

2000 Mary Peterson Gilbert Prize, School of Speech, Northwestern University

2000 Milton S. Florsheim Prize, Northwestern University

1998, 1999 James H. McBurney Award, School of Speech, Northwestern University

1997-2000 Clarion DeWitt Hardy Scholarship/ Owen L. Coon Scholarship (debate),
Northwestern University

GRANTS

2020-2021 Advancing Research and Creativity Grant, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
\$15,000 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell and Portia Cobb. **FUNDED**

2020-2021 Discovery and Innovation Grant, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
\$99,634 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell and Portia Cobb. **UNFUNDED**

2020-2021 Fromkin Research Grant (finalist), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
\$5,000 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell and Portia Cobb. **UNFUNDED**

2019 Wisconsin Humanities Council Grant
\$10,000 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell, Portia Cobb, Kaija Zusevics, Barbara Beck, and Debra Gillispie. **FUNDED**

2019 Waterhouse Family Institute Research Grant, Villanova University
\$10,100 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell, Portia Cobb, Kaija Zusevics, Barbara Beck, and Debra Gillispie. **FUNDED**

2019-2020 Collaborative Research Team Development Grant, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

\$15,000 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell, Portia Cobb, Kaija Zusevics, Barbara Beck, and Debra Gillispie. **FUNDED**

2019 Federation Prize, Central States Communication Association

\$5,000 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell. **FUNDED**

2019-2020 Research and Creative Activities Support Award, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

\$24,988 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell and Portia Cobb. **UNFUNDED**.

2019 Advancing the Discipline Grant, National Communication Association

\$5,000 to support Organization for Research on Women and Communication conference. With Tiffany Lewis. **FUNDED**

2018 Advancing the Discipline Grant, National Communication Association

\$5,000 to support *The gun violence project: Mapping narratives of violence in Milwaukee*. With Erin Sahlstein Parcell. **FUNDED**

2017 Freedom of Expression, Civil Discourse Series, Faculty Mini-Grant, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

\$1,000 to support classroom integration of Freedom of Expression programing, **FUNDED**

2016 Rockefeller Archive Center Research Travel Grant

\$1,515 to support research for travel for *White Slavery and Women's Place*. **FUNDED**

2015 Faculty Arts and Humanities Travel Award, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

\$900 to support research for travel for *White Slavery and Women's Place*. **FUNDED**

2009 Graduate School Research Committee Award, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

To support research for *State of the Marital Union: Rhetoric, Identity, and Nineteenth Century Marriage Controversies*. **FUNDED**

2009 Faculty Arts and Humanities Travel Award, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

\$500 to support research for *State of the Marital Union: Rhetoric, Identity, and Nineteenth Century Marriage Controversies*. **FUNDED**

2003 Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University

To support dissertation research. **FUNDED**

MEDIA

- Byron, Lelah. (2022, June 27). Bus stop murals raise awareness about Milwaukee's gun violence, gives voice to its survivors. *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2022/06/27/bus-stop-murals-raise-awareness-milwaukeees-gun-violence/7704057001/>
- Kilmer, Graham. (2022, June 20). Bus stop murals tell story of gun violence. *Urban Milwaukee*. <https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2022/06/20/bus-stop-murals-tell-story-of-gun-violence/>
- Klopf, R. (2019, October 15). Mother of murder victim creates 'Gun Violence Project' to help other survivors have a voice. *TMJ4*. <https://www.tmj4.com/news/local-news/mother-of-murder-victim-creates-gun-violence-project-to-help-other-survivors-have-a-voice>
- Hullum, R. (2019, April 9). The gun violence project goes beyond statistics. *Shepherd Express*. <https://shepherdexpress.com/news/features/the-gun-violence-project-goes-beyond-statistics/#/questions>
- Interview on Milwaukee CBS 58 Sunday Morning. May 13, 2018.
- Featured on WISN (Milwaukee Channel 12), 6:00pm News. May 10, 2018.
- Interview with Mitch Teich, *Lake Effect*, WUWM public radio: May 11, 2018.
- McManaman, Angela, "The History of Mother's Day Echoes the Complexity of Motherhood Itself." *UWM Report*, May 8, 2018. <http://uwm.edu/news/history-of-mothers-day-echoes-complexity-of-motherhood-itself-leslie-harris-uwm/>
- Interview on *Steel on Steel*, radio broadcast, November 1, 2014.
- Eric Miller, *Religion Dispatches*. "What 19th-Century Marriage Controversies Can Tell Us About the Fight for Gay Marriage." October 7, 2014. <http://religiondispatches.org/what-19th-century-marriage-controversies-can-tell-us-about-the-fight-over-gay-marriage/>
- Interview on *The Joy Cardin Show*, "Sexting Among Teen Girls." Wisconsin Public Radio: May 1, 2014. <http://www.wpr.org/shows/sexting-among-teen-girls>
- Interview on *The Joy Cardin Show*, "Barbie is Unapologetic." Wisconsin Public Radio: March 5, 2014. <http://www.wpr.org/shows/barbie-unapologetic>

INVITED PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- "Disrupting the Arrow of Time: Gun Violence in Southeastern Wisconsin." UWM at Waukesha Lectures and Fine Arts Series, April 2024.
- "Policing the Mobile Imagination: The Prosecution of Jack Johnson the Protection of White Womanhood." Department of Communication Colloquium, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, April 2023.
- "Policing the Mobile Imagination: The Prosecution of Jack Johnson the Protection of White Womanhood." Department of Communication Colloquium, University of Texas- Austin, April 2023.

“Voices of Gun Violence” Southeastern Wisconsin Festival of Books. Waukesha, WI, November 2022.

“Voices of Gun Violence: Collaboration in the Digital Humanities,” with Barbra Beck, Portia Cobb, Debra Gillispie, Erin Sahlstein Parcell, Michelle Trujillo, Kaija Zusevics. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Digital Humanities Lab, March 2021.

Participant in “Interrogating the Community Work of Rhetoric.” University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, UW-Milwaukee’s Rhetoric Society of America student chapter, November 2020.

“Gun Violence Project and Community Engaged Scholarship,” with Erin Parcell, Debra Gillispie, and Sundance Duchow. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication, September 2019.

“The Problem of Human Trafficking in the Chicago Area,” League of Women Voters, Glenview/Glenco, IL, October 2015.

“Views from the Porch: State of the Marital Union,” Frances Willard Historical Association, Evanston, IL, December 2014

“Pure, Pious, and Polygamous: Mormon Women and the Defense of Polygamy in the Nineteenth Century United States,” University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Communication Department, March 19, 2010

“Pure, Pious, and Polygamous: Mormon Women and the Defense of Polygamy in the Nineteenth Century United States,” University of Wisconsin – Madison, Center for Print Culture, April 16, 2010

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Mothering a Legacy: Lucy McBath and Motherhood in Black Women’s Political Rhetoric” with Iruoma Ezumba, Rhetoric Society of America Convention, 2024
Panel Participant, “Public Humanities Roundtable,” Rhetoric Society of American Convention, 2024

“Disrupting the Arrow of Time: The Rhetoric of Gun Violence in Southeastern Wisconsin” co-authored with Erin Parcell, Central States Communication Association Convention, 2024

Panel Participant, “Responding to *Rhetoric of White Slavery and the Making of National Identity* by Leslie J. Harris,” National Communication Association, November 2023.

“Women’s Morality and Possible National Futures in Early US Immigration Law,” National Communication Association, November 2023.

“Yogic Resistance: Swami Vivekananda and the Rhetoric of Transcendence” co-authored with Candice L. Ruh, National Communication Association, November 2023.

- “Relational Agency and the Cultural Contestation of Heteronormative Gender Norms in the Indian American Diaspora.” Co-authored with Anjana Mudambi, National Communication Association, November, 2023.
- Panel Participant, “Community-Led Health Communication Research as Social Justice Scholarship.” Central States Communication Association, March 2023.
- “Protecting Women’s Purity: ‘The Maiden Tribute of Modern Babylon’ and the Rhetoric Purity Reform.” Central States Communication Association, March 2023.
- “Surviving Violence Spaces: Racialized Violence and the Creation of Urban Space,” co-authored with Erin Sahlstein Parcell, National Communication Association, November 2022.
- “Sex Trafficking and Transnational Flow: Protecting White Womanhood as a Rhetoric of Containment,” National Communication Association, November 2022.
- “Immoral Woman and National Boundaries: The Rhetoric of Morality in Early Federal Immigration Law,” Rhetoric Society of American Biennial Convention, May 2022.
- “White Slavery in Chinatown: Woman Suffrage and Transnational Threat,” Western States Communication Association, February 2022.
- “Black Motility and Police Violence in the Case of Dontre Hamilton” National Communication Association, November 2021.
- Panel Participant, “Celebrating Kathryn Olson: Renewing Our Commitment to Argumentation and Rhetorical Leadership,” National Communication Association, November 2021.
- “Protecting (White) Women and Sustaining White Supremacy: Rhetoric of White Slavery and the 1910 Mann Act” National Communication Association, November 2020.
- Roundtable Participant, “Using technologies to pursue rhetorically-based community-engaged projects: Translation, boundaries, and transformations,” National Communication Association, November 2020.
- Roundtable Participant, “Stories of survival: Social justice through digital humanities in the Milwaukee gun violence project,” National Communication Association, November 2019.
- “The Milwaukee Gun Violence Project,” co-presented with Erin Sahlstein Parcell. National Communication Association, November 2019.
- “Maternal Pain and Public Action: The Rhetoric of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America,” Southern States Communication Association Convention, April 2019.
- “The Science of White Slavery: Solidifying Racial Boundaries in the New York Solution, 1910-1915,” Southern States Communication Association Convention, April 2019.
- Roundtable Participant, “Evidence and Affect: Myriad theorization of the Blasey Ford/Kavanaugh and Hill/Thomas Senate Hearings as New Kindle for ‘Antiquated’ Culture Wars,” Western States Communication Association Convention, February 2019.
- Roundtable Participant, “New Materialities, New Mobilities: Retheorizing Place through Embodied and Experiential Differences,” National Communication Association Convention, November 2018.
- “Recognition, Shame, and Racial Justice: Black American Appeals for Inclusion at the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition,” co-authored with Jansen Werner, National

- Communication Association Convention, November 2018. (top paper in Public Address Division)
- Roundtable Participant, "ORWAC President's Roundtable: Questioning Mindfulness and Moving Toward Inclusion and Justice," Western States Communication Association Convention, February 2018.
- "Home-Making, Nation-Making: American Womanhood in Progressive Era Presidential Rhetoric," National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2017.
- "Rhetoric of White Slavery: Debating Women's Bodies in Wisconsin, 1887-1890," The Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, June 2017.
- "Graduate Education Inside and Outside of the Academy: A Model for Service-Learning in Communication," Western States Communication Association Convention, co-authored with Marnie Lawler McDonough and Laurie Marks, February 2017.
- "Creating Home: Rhetoric and Religious Freedom in Mormon Polygamy," National Communication Preconference Seminar Rhetoric, Religion, and Freedom, November 2016.
- "Saving the Fallen Girls: The Woman's Christian Temperance Union's White Slavery Campaign" National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2016.
- "Becoming Civilized: Black Womanhood and Resistance at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition" National Communication Association Annual Convention, co-authored with Jansen Werner, November 2016.
- "Gender, Citizenship and Rhetorical Geography in the White Slavery Controversy," Gender and Citizenship Conference at Texas A&M University, February 2016.
- "Frederick Douglass and Racial Permeability," Rhetoric and the Legacies of Race, National Communication Association Pre-Conference Seminar, November 2014.
- "Swami Vivekananda and Becoming American: Performing Ambiguity at Chicago's Columbian Exposition" for National Communication Association Annual Convention, co-authored with Kiranjeet Dhillon, November 2014.
- "Women in Law: Police Matrons and the Rhetoric of Moral Authority," for Rhetoric Society of America Biannual Convention, May 2014
- Invited round table presenter, National Communication Association Seminar on Situated Discourses of Citizenship, November 21, 2013
- "Rhetoric of Gender and Chinese Immigration in the Nineteenth-Century US," for Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender Conference, October 2013.
- "The War on Women' and the Symbolic Appropriation of Women's Bodies," invited participant for division organizer panel, Central States Communication Association Annual Convention, April 2013
- "*Miscegenation*, the Election of 1864, and Satiric Argument," for NCA/AFA Summer Conference on Argumentation, August 2013.
- "Honorable Manhood and Barbaric Cruelty: Gender and Class in Nineteenth-Century Domestic Violence," Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender Conference, October 2012
- "Free Love' and the Oneida Perfectionists: Reimagining Female Agency by Reimagining Marriage," for Rhetoric Society of American Convention, May 2012.

- “Free Love and Radical Maternalism,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2011
- “The Paradox of Authentic Identity: Mormon Women and the Nineteenth Century Polygamy Controversy,” co-authored with Mike Allen, NCA/AFA Summer Conference on Argumentation, July 2011.
- “An Agonistic Rhetorical Criticism: Marriage and Conflict in American Public Culture,” co-authored with Elizabeth Benacka, Central States Communication Association Annual Convention, April 2011.
- “Making Gender Visible Through Music in the Non-Gender Studies Classroom,” UW System Wisconsin Women’s Studies and LGBTQ Conference, March 2011.
- “Constituting the American Identity in the Nineteenth Century Mormon Defense of Polygamy,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2010.
- “Feminism and the “Spiral of History”: History in the Rhetoric of Gloria Steinem,” Rhetoric Society of American Convention, May 2010
- “Gender, Law, and Public Spectacle: Rhetorically Constituting the Divorced Woman in the 1860s Popular Divorce Trials,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2009.
- “Feminists for Life and the Appropriation of History,” co-authored with Kimberly Smith, NCA/AFA Alta Conference on Argumentation, August 2009
- “Sensationalist Rhetoric, Gender, and Law: Making Law into Public Spectacle in 1860s Divorce Trials,” National Communication Association, November 2008
- “Listening to History Speak: Interpreting Family and State from the Nineteenth Century to the Contemporary Gay Marriage Debate,” paper competitively selected, National Communication Association, November 2008
- “Rhetorics of Marriage and Family: The Public Nature of a Private Institution,” co-authored with Elizabeth Benacka, paper competitively selected, Rhetoric Society of America Convention, May 2008
- “Race and Motherhood in the *Liberty Bell* Anti-Slavery Books,” paper competitively selected, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference, April 2008
- “Race and Motherhood in the Anti-Slavery Movement,” paper competitively selected, National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2007
- “Limiting the Rule of the Father: Culture and Legal Change in Nineteenth Century Child Custody Law,” paper competitively selected, National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2007
- “Law as Father: The Relationship between the State and Family in Progressive Era Child Custody Law,” paper competitively selected, Conference on Law and the Humanities, March 2007
- “Law as Father: The Relationship between the State and Family in Progressive Era Child Custody Law,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, May 2006
- “Fighting for Legal Change: The Legal Rhetorics of Susan B. Anthony and Myra Bradwell,” Susan B. Anthony & the Struggle for Equal Rights Women’s History Conference, March 2006
- “Performing Parenthood in the Law: Law as Father in the Creation of the Juvenile Court,” paper competitively selected, American Society for the History of Rhetoric/NCA pre-conference, November 2005.
- “Myra Bradwell: Redefining the Relationship between Women and Law,” paper

- competitively selected, Feminism(s) & Rhetoric(s) Conference, October 2005
- “Torn from Her Very Bosom: Melodramatic Argument in Nineteenth Century Law,” paper competitively selected, Alta Conference on Argumentation, August 2005
- “Torn From Her Very Bosom: Rhetorics of Motherhood in Nineteenth Century Child Custody Law,” paper competitively selected, Northwestern University Mellon Dissertation Forum, May 2005
- “Defining Race in Plessy v. Ferguson: Reconciling Contradiction through the Use of Associational Clusters,” paper competitively selected, Central States Communication Association Annual Conference, April 2005
- “The Value of Motherhood: Supreme Court Appropriations of Second Wave Rhetorics of Motherhood,” paper competitively selected, National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, November 2004
- “Arguing Evolution: Carrie Chapman Catt and First Wave Feminist Appropriations of Social Evolutionism,” paper competitively selected, Rhetoric Society of America Biannual Convention, Austin, Texas, May 2004
- ”Polarization in Martin Luther King’s ‘Letter from Birmingham Jail’ and George Wallace’s ‘1963 Inaugural Address,’” Rhetoric Conference, Northwestern University, Spring 2003
- “Social Change, the Court, and Child Custody: a Rhetorical Analysis of a 19th Century Child Custody Decision,” paper competitively selected, National Communication Association Convention, New Orleans, November 2002

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Assistant Professor, 2007-2014

Associate Professor, 2014-2023

Professor, 2023-present

Critical Analysis of Communication (graduate and undergraduate)

Rhetorics of Radicalism in the United States (undergraduate)

Rhetoric of Women’s Rights in the United States (graduate and undergraduate)

Theory and Practice of Argumentation (graduate)

Public Deliberation (graduate)

Gender and Communication (undergraduate)

Seminar in Public Address (graduate)

Introduction to Public Speaking (undergraduate)

Philosophy and Practice of Communication (graduate)

Seminar in Rhetorical Research: Rhetoric of Space and Mobility (graduate)

Seminar in Rhetorical Research: Rhetorical History and Historiography (graduate)

Special Topics in Communication: Rhetoric of Marriage and Family (graduate)

Lake Forest College:

Instructor, Spring 2005-2006

Visiting Assistant Professor, 2006-2007

Introduction to Communication

Rhetoric and Speech

Topics in Communication: Legal Communication

Topics in Communication: Gender and Media

Topics in Communication: Rhetorics of Radicalism

Northwestern University:

Graduate Instructor, 2002-2004

Arts of Controversy: Introduction to Rhetorical Thinking

Introduction to Public Speaking

Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2003-2004

Theories of Argumentation

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Disciplinary Service:

Immediate Past-President, Organization for Research on Women and Communication, 2020-2022

Membership Officer, Rhetoric Society of America, 2019-2023

President, Organization for Research on Women and Communication, 2018-2020

Vice-President, Organization for Research on Women and Communication, 2016-2018

Nominating Committee, National Communication Association, Public Address Division Representative, 2014-2015

Committee Member, NCA Gerald R. Miller Outstanding Dissertation Award Committee, 2017

Secretary, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, National Communication Association 2008

Editorial Board:

Women's Studies in Communication, 2019-2022

Rhetoric & Public Affairs, 2020-present

Voices of Democracy, 2021-present

Communication Studies, 2022-present

Quarterly Journal of Speech, 2023-present

Ad Hoc Reviewer:

Communication Monographs 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly 2010

Law and Social Inquiry 2010

Quarterly Journal of Speech 2017

Women's Studies in Communication 2019

Rhetoric, Politics, Culture 2022

Grant and Award Committees:

James L. Golden Outstanding Student Essay in Rhetoric, National Communication Association, 2022

Federation Prize, Central States Communication Association, 2022

Waterhouse Family Institute Research Grant, Villanova University, 2022

Emerging Scholar Award, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, 2024

University Service:

Department Service:

Chair, Department of Communication, 2024-present
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2022-2024
 Director of Public Speaking, 2016-2021
 Undergraduate Committee, 2016-2018
 Interim Internship Director, Fall 2015
 Director of Undergraduate Studies 2012-2016
 Awards Committee 2007-2009, 2017-2021
 Graduate Affairs Committee 2009-2012, 2016-2017
 Undergraduate Research Committee 2009-2011
 Website Liaison 2010-2011
 Ad Hoc Academic Forecasting Committee 2008
 Ad Hoc Regents Teaching Award Committee 2009
 Ad Hoc Colloquia Committee 2011-2012
 Ad Hoc Undergraduate Majors Committee 2011
 Course Director Commun 103, 335, 362, 402
 Women's and Gender Studies Affiliate 2007-present
 Women's Studies Steering Council 2011-2014
 Women's Studies Committees:
 Scholarship Committee 2012
 Women's Studies Director Job Search Committee 2013
 Research Award Committee 2014
 Faculty Advisor for University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Student Chapter of the
 Rhetoric Society of America 2010-2016
 Faculty Advisor for University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta
 2012-2016, 2022-present
 Peer Reviewer for Graduate School Research Committee Award 2013
 Peer Reviewer for UWM NEH Grant Committee, 2013, 2017
 Chair, College of Letters and Sciences Degree Review Committee, 2016-2018
 Peer Reviewer for UWM Office of Research NEH Grant 2019
 Directed Independent Studies/Research Practicum for:
 Kimberly Smith, MA student (Spring 2009)
 David Nawrocki (Spring and Summer 2009)
 Semra Schneider (Fall 2009, Spring 2010)
 Stephanie Gille (Spring 2010)
 Amy Ogrezovich (Fall 2010)
 Ruth Beerman, PhD student (Fall 2010)
 Malynnda Johnson, PhD student (Fall 2010)
 Kaori Yamada, PhD student (Fall 2012)
 Iruoma Ezumba, PhD student (Spring 2023, Fall 2023)
 Alex Balaram, PhD student (Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024)
 Todd Hauser (Summer 2023)
 Candice Rue (Summer 2023)

MA Advisor:

Anne Davis, 2010
 Kristin Pascale, 2014

Sophia Koleno Chemsì, 2019
 Cassidy Rentmeester, 2020
 Alexandra Parr Balaram, 2021
 Allyson Hayden, 2023
 MA Committee Member:
 Tony Jones, 2008
 Alex Wright, 2009
 Andrew Cole, 2010
 Marion Artner, 2011
 Ashley Lund, 2011
 Ryan Hudziak, 2013
 Danielle Sparrow, 2017
 Mackenzie Smith, 2019
 Sawyer Gilding, 2023
 PhD Advisor:
 Ruth Beerman, 2014
 Kaori Yamada, 2015
 Jansen Warner, 2016
 Hilary Rasmussen, 2017
 Terra Rasmussen, 2018
 Megan Orcholski, 2020
 Marnie Lawler McDonough, 2022
 Alexandra Parr Balaram, IP
 Iruoma Ezumba, IP
 Todd Hauser, IP
 PhD Committee Member:
 Malynnda Johnson, 2011
 Lara Stache, 2013
 Lindsey Harness, 2013
 Rachel Davidson, 2015
 Teresa Egan (Nursing), 2016
 James Vining, 2016
 Thomas Salak, 2016
 Ben Baker, 2017
 Molly Kessler (English), 2017
 Josh Miller, 2018
 Kristy Jagiello, 2019
 Taylor Katz, IP
 Lisa Roth, IP
 Kristin Wagel, 2023
 Danielle Romo, 2023
 Cassandra Hightower, IP

Community Service:

Debate Coach, Whitefish Bay High School, Whitefish Bay, WI 2020-2023
 Volunteer Debate Judge, Whitefish Bay High School, Whitefish Bay, WI 2018-2022

Board Member, Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, 2017-2018

Community Service Related to Voices of Gun Violence:

Black Lives Matter Sessions at North Division High School, February 2020 (~120 participants), February 2021(~50 participants)

Classroom visits at Marshall High School (Michael Hirsch's class), September 2019 (~120 participants)

Latino Arts exhibit, Dia de los Muertos Ofrendas, 2019, 2020 (~250 attendees)

Voices of Gun Violence: Transforming Grief into Community Action virtual event with Radio Milwaukee, November 2020 (60 attendees)

Voices of Gun Violence panel discussion with Milwaukee Repertory Theater, March 2021

Youth Voices of Gun Violence panel discussion with Milwaukee Repertory Theater, April 2021

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Communication Association

Rhetoric Society of America

Central States Communication Association

Organization for Research on Women and Communication

Southern States Communication Association

Western States Communication Association