

September 2018

Patricia Roberts-Miller  
Department of Rhetoric and Writing  
The University of Texas at Austin  
1 University Station B5500  
Austin TX 78712-1122  
[patriciarobertsmiller@gmail.com](mailto:patriciarobertsmiller@gmail.com)

## Curriculum Vitae

### EDUCATION:

University of California at Berkeley, Ph.D., 1983-1987, Rhetoric

Dissertation: "John Muir and the Hetch Hetchy Debate: A Study of the Demise of the Sublime in American Policy Rhetoric"

University of California at Berkeley, MA, 1981-1983, Rhetoric (Distinction)

University of California at Berkeley, AB, 1977-1981, Rhetoric (Highest Honors)

### UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS APPOINTMENTS:

2014-present: Director, University Writing Center

2010-present: Professor, Department of Rhetoric and Writing

2004-2010: Associate Professor, Department of Rhetoric and Writing

2000-2004: Assistant Professor, Division of Rhetoric and Composition

### OTHER ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

1994-2000: Assistant Professor, Rhetoric and Composition, Department of English, University of Missouri-Columbia (Promotion to Associate Professor would have taken effect September 1, 2000)

1988-1994: Assistant Professor, Rhetoric and Composition, Department of English, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

1987-1988: Visiting Lecturer, Department of Rhetoric, University of California at Berkeley

1981-1987: Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Rhetoric, University of California at Berkeley

### RESEARCH:

#### Books:

*Demagoguery and Democracy*. The Experiment, 2017.

*Fanatical Schemes: Proslavery Rhetoric and the Tragedy of Consensus*. University of Alabama Press, 2009.  
(Honorable mention RSA book award, 2009)

Reviews: Brophy, Alfred. *Rhetorica*. 30:1 (Winter 2012): 100-102.

McClish, Glen. *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*. 41:1 (Winter 2011): 86-96.

Mark J. Fleszar. Review of Roberts-Miller, Patricia, *Fanatical Schemes: Proslavery Rhetoric and the Tragedy of Consensus*. H-Law, H-Net Reviews. June, 2011. <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=32275>

Mosher, Shawn. *Rhetoric & Public Affairs*, 13:1 (Spring 2010): 157-160.

Oshatz, Molly. *The Journal of Southern History*. 76:3 (August 2010): 728-29.

Fee, Frank E. Jr. *American Journalism*. (Summer 2009): 160-61.

*Deliberate Conflict: Composition Classes and Political Spaces*. Southern Illinois University Press, 2004.

Reviews: Fulkerson, Richard. *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 35:1 (Winter 2005) 123-6.

Gage, John. *Rhetoric Review* 25: 1 (2006) 99-103.

*Voices in the Wilderness: The Paradox of the Puritan Public Sphere*. University of Alabama Press, 1999.

Reviewed by: Fendrich, John W. *American Communication Journal* 2.1 (2000).  
<http://acjournal.org/holdings/vol2/Iss1/reviews/fendrech.htm>.

Reviewed by: Kane, P.E. *Choice* (Dec 1999): 713.

Reviewed by: Miller, Thomas. *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 30:4 (Fall 2000) 111-114.

Reviewed by: Anonymous. *The Society of Early Americanists Newsletter* 12.2 (2002).  
[http://www.humanities.uci.edu/mclark/SEAN/SEAN12\\_2/12\\_2InkGlass.html](http://www.humanities.uci.edu/mclark/SEAN/SEAN12_2/12_2InkGlass.html).

Editor. *The Harcourt Brace Sourcebook for Teachers of Writing*. Harcourt, Brace & Company, 1998.

In Press:

*Rhetoric and Demagoguery* SIUP, expected publication March 2019

Sections of Books:

"Charisma Isn't Leadership, and Other Lessons We Can Learn from Trump the Businessman." *Faking the News*. Ed. Ryan Skinnell, Societas, 2018: 95-107.

"Rhetoric is Synonymous with Empty Speech." *Bad Ideas about Writing*. Eds. Cheryl E. Ball and Drew Loewe. West Virginia: West Virginian University Libraries Digital Publishing Insititute. 2017. 7-12.

"Habermas' Rational-Critical Sphere and The Problem of Criteria." *The Role of Rhetoric in an Anti-Foundational World*. Eds. Michael Bernard-Donals and Richard Glejzer. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998. 170-194. (Another version of "Habermas and the American Puritans"; see below.)

"Frank Harris." *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, Volume 156: "British Short-Fiction Writers, 1880-1914." Ed. William F. Naufftus. Detroit : Gale Research, 1995. 137-145.

"John Muir." *St. James Guide to Biography*. Ed. Paul E. Schellinger. Chicago and London: St. James Press, 1991. 565-566.

"A Peer Tutor Assesses Her Teaching Ability." *Improving Writing Skills* (Series: New Directions in College Learning Assistance). Eds. Thom Hawkins and Phyllis Brooks. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, Winter 1981. 39-40.

On-line:

"Media, Rhetoric, and the Demagoguery of the Elite." *Media Ethics*, 29:2 (Spring 2018).  
[http://www.mediaethicsmagazine.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=3999195:media-rhetoric-and-the-demagoguery-of-the-elite&catid=209&Itemid=486](http://www.mediaethicsmagazine.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3999195:media-rhetoric-and-the-demagoguery-of-the-elite&catid=209&Itemid=486)

("Parody Blogging and the Call of the Real." *Into the Blogosphere; Rhetoric, Community, and Culture of Weblogs*. Eds. Gurak, Laura, Smiljana Antonijevic, Laurie Johnson, Clancy Ratliff, and Jessica Reyman.  
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/blogosphere/> (April 2004)

#### Articles:

"Conspiracy Bullshit." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*. 45.5 (Fall 2015): 464-467. (not peer-reviewed)

"Dissent as 'Aid and Comfort to the Enemy': The Rhetorical Power of Naïve Realism and Ingroup Identity." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 39:2 (Spring 2009): 170-188.

"The Tragic Limits of Compassionate Politics." (Response Essay) *JAC* 27:3-4 (2007): 692-700.

"Agonism, Wrangling, and John Quincy Adams." *Rhetoric Review* 25:2 (2006): 141-161.

"Democracy, Demagoguery, and Critical Rhetoric." *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 8 (2005): 459-76.

#### Reviews and Responses:

Jedd, Sarah Meinen. *kbjournal*. <http://kbjournal.org/jedd>

Darsey, James. "Patricia Roberts-Miller, Demagoguery, and the Troublesome Case of Eugene Debs." *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* 9.3 (2006): 463-470.

Goldzwig, Steven R. Demagoguery, Democratic Dissent, and "Re-Visioning Democracy." *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* 9.3 (2006).

Hogan, J. Michael, and Tell, Dave. "Demagoguery and Democratic Deliberation: The Search for Rules of Discursive Engagement." *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* 9.3 (2006).

"Robert Montgomery Bird and the Rhetoric of the Improbable Cause." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* (RSQ) 2005 Winter; 35 (1): 73-90. (Winner of the Kneupper Award)

"Discursive Conflict in Communities and Classrooms." *College Composition and Communication* 54.4 (2003): 536-557.

"Fighting without Hatred: Hannah Arendt's Agonistic Rhetoric." *JAC: A Journal of Composition Theory* (formerly, *Journal of Advanced Composition*) 22.3 (2002): 585-601.

Response by: Crosswhite, James. "Conflict in Concert: Fighting Hannah Arendt's Good Fight." *JAC: A Journal of Composition Theory* (formerly, *Journal of Advanced Composition*) 22.4 (2002): 948-960.

"John Quincy Adams' *Amistad* Argument: The Problem of Outrage; Or, the Constraints of Decorum." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 32.2 (2002): 5-26.

"Post-Contemporary Composition: Social Constructivism and Its Alternatives." *Composition Studies* 30.1 (2002): 97-116.

"Habermas, *Philosophes*, and Puritans: Rationality and Exclusion in the Dialectical Public Sphere." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 26.1 (1996): 47-68.

Co-authored with Virginia Pompei Jones, "Imagining Reasons: The Role of the Imagination in Argumentation." *Journal of Advanced Composition* 15.3 (1995): 527-541.

"Habermas' Varieties of Communicative Action: Controversy Without Combat." *Journal of Advanced Composition* 11.2 (1991): 409-424.

"Reading the Writing on Nature's Wall." *Reader* 18 (1987): 31-44.

#### Reviews:

Review of Henrietta Rix Wood's *Praising Girls: The Rhetoric of Young Women, 1895-1930*. *Missouri Historical Review*, April 2017 (Vol. 111, No. 3).

Eatman, Megan, and Patricia Roberts-Miller. Review of *Executing Democracy, Volume 2: Capital Punishment and the Making of America, 1835-1843*, by Stephen John Hartnett. *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*. Volume 44, Issue 1, (2014).

Review of Kenneth L. Marcus, *Jewish Identity and Civil Rights in America*. *Human Rights Review*: Volume 14, Issue 3 (2013), Page 291-292.

Review of Srividya Swaminathan, *Debating the Slave Trade: Rhetoric of British National Identity, 1759-1815*. Farnham: Ashgate, 2009. [Rhetorica: A Journal of the History of Rhetoric](#). Vol. 29, No. 2 (Spring 2011): 206-208.

Review of Robert Asen and Daniel C. Brouwer, eds. *Counterpublics and the State*. *National Communication Review* 3.2 (April 2003).

Review of Gerard Hauser's *Vernacular Voices*. *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 30:4 (2000): 123-125.

Review of Jakob Lothe's *Conrad's Narrative Method*. *English Literature in Transition* 34.4 (1991): 506-509.

#### Other Articles:

"Demagoguery vs. democracy: How "us vs. them" can lead to state-led violence." *Salon* (June 10, 2017). <http://www.salon.com/2017/06/10/demagoguery-vs-democracy-how-us-vs-them-can-lead-to-state-led-violence/>

"9 to 5." *Inside Higher Ed*. August 25, 2014. <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2014/08/25/essay-working-40-hours-week-academic>

"Facing Tenure Rejection." *Inside Higher Ed*. April 2, 2014. <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2014/04/02/essay-how-deal-tenure-rejection>

#### Recent Invited Lectures/Presentations:

"Democracy and Demagoguery of the Elite" and "Reinventing Rhetoric through Undergraduate Research: A Roundtable Deliberation." Rhetoric Society of America (Minneapolis, May 2018)

"Teacher Neutrality and Fairness in a Culture of Demagoguery." University of Nebraska (February 2018)

"The Rhetorical Problem of Demagoguery." MLA (January 2018)

"Charisma Isn't Leadership, and Other Lessons We Can Learn from Trump the Businessman." Rhetoric and the New Fascism (A&M, February 2018)

“Seeking the Public in Public Education: Roundtable.” National Communication Association (Dallas, November 2017)

“Trump and the Demagoguery Charge.” CCCC (Portland, March 2017)

“Democracy and the Rhetoric of Demagoguery.” University of Denver (Denver, February 2017)

“Demagoguery Without Demophobia.” National Communication Association (Philadelphia, November 2017)

“Rhetoric and Demagoguery.” Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, October 2016)

“Political Eschatology, Imparted Justification, and Sloppy Calvinism: The Religious Basis of Neoliberalism.” Cultural Rhetorics Conference (East Lansing, October 2016)

“Justification” and “Deliberating the Greatness of Athens.” Rhetoric Society of America (Atlanta, May 2016)

“Demagoguery and Pathologies of Deliberation.” San Diego State University (March 2016)

“Graduate Student Writers and Writing.” South Central Writing Centers Association (Lafayette, March 2016)

“Trompe l’Oeil Meritocracy and the Gender of Detenuring.” Modern Language Association (Austin, January 2016)

*Humanities Media Project* podcast. February 10, 2016. <https://humanitiesmediaproject.org/professor-trish-roberts-miller/>

“Hate Rhetorics and the Culture of Good Intentions,” Cultural Rhetorics Conference (Michigan State U, October 2014)

“A Tale of Three Writing Centers” SCWCA (Austin, February 2015)

“Pushback on Seeing Textbooks as Scholarship: Why the ‘Textbooks As Scholarship’ Argument Doesn’t Work” CCCC (Tampa, March 2015)

“Frankfurt’s Bullshit” and “This Must Not Be The Place.” Rhetoric Society of America (San Antonio, May 2014)

Lecture series on Rhetoric and Writing. Department of Foreign Languages, University of Behai (Beijing May-June 2013)

“Erotics of Outrage and the Pleasures of Bad Arguments.” Conference on College Composition and Communication (Las Vegas, March 2013)

“Metathesiophobia and the Impossible Math of the Scholarly Monograph.” Modern Language Association (Boston, January 2013)

Panelist for “The Future of the PhD in Postsecondary Teaching.” Modern Language Association (Boston, January 2013)

“I’m not racist, but....: Responsibility and Demagoguery.” Rhetoric, Writing, & Linguistics Speaker Series (University of Tennessee, Knoxville, October 2011)

“Cunning Identification and Rhetorically Necessary Equivocation in Racist and Homophobic Discourse.” Rhetoric Society of America (Philadelphia, May 2012)

“Judgment, Bias, and Race: The Body of Persuasion in Reactionary Rhetoric.” (Philadelphia, May 2012)

“Rhetoric, Civilization, and Polite Dehumanization in the Deliberations over Japanese Internment.” Reid Lecture (Furman University, September 2012)

“Locke’s Second Treatise and the Distrust of Deliberation.” (Philadelphia, May 2012)

Respondent to Randolph Bytwerk’s “Symbolic Violence in Nazi Anti-Semitic Propaganda.” A&M Conference on Symbolic Violence (Bryan, March 2012).

Participant in roundtable panel on “Rhetoric and/of the Job Market.” Modern Language Association. (Seattle, January 2012).

"Reason, Judgment, Certainty, and Other Things That Cause Train Wrecks in Public Deliberation." Center for Writing Studies Colloquium Series, University of Illinois (Urbana, September 2010)

“Arguments From Authority.” “Hobbes on Thucydides on Language.” Rhetoric Society of America (Minneapolis, May 2010)

“Invention: Fixedness and Fluidity.” CCCC (Louisville, March 2010)

Presenter at Feminist Workshop. CCCC (Louisville, March 2010)

"Recanting the curse on both houses: the responsibilities of the neutral position." CCCC (San Francisco, March 2009)

“Literature and Argumentation.” “What Football and Public Argumentation Have in Common.” “Why Teaching First Year Writing is Hard.” U Louisiana Lafayette (February 2010)

Presenter at Feminist Workshop. CCCC (San Francisco, March 2009)

"When Demagoguery Is the Norm." MLA (San Francisco, December 2008)

"Bush Junior: War and Social Dominance Theory." Rhetoric Society of America (Seattle, May 2008)

“Universal Audience, Epideictic, and the Exclusion of Dissent.” The Promise of Reason: *The New Rhetoric* after 50 Years (U of Oregon, May 2008)

## RELEVANT SERVICE

### Promotion and Tenure Reviews for Other Institutions

Arizona State University, Cal State Los Angeles, Carnegie Mellon University, Florida State University, Michigan State University, Simon Fraser University, Syracuse University, Temple University, Texas A&M University, University of Georgia, University of Illinois, University of Kansas, University of Maryland, University of Oregon, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Wayne State University

### Other National Service

Chair, External Review Committee, University of Iowa Department of Rhetoric (2016)  
External Consultant, Oberlin College (2016)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICE:

Member: Modern Language Association (Delegate Assembly, Division on History and Theory of Rhetoric and Composition), National Council Teachers of English, Rhetoric Society of America, Society for Early Americanists, South Central Writing Center Association (State representative 2015-2017)

Rhetoric Society of America: Editorial Board, Task Force on Publication Series, Selection Committee *RSQ* Special Issue, Kneupper Award Committee (Chair and member), Career Mentor, Co-Chair and Mentor for Undergraduate Research Network

Mentor for the 2012 RSA Career Retreat for Associate Professors.

Reviewer for Conference Proposals for CCCC, Cultural Rhetorics Conference, National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing, RSA, South Central Writing Centers Association

Referee/Reviewer: *Advances in the History of Rhetoric*, *CCC*, *College English*, *Composition Studies*, *JAC: A Journal of Composition Theory*, *Political Studies*, *Praxis*, *Profession*, *Rhetorica*, *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*; *Penn State University Press*, *Southern Illinois University Press*, *University of Alabama Press*

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Co-op Subvention Grant for *Rhetoric and Demagoguery* Spring 2018

Co-op Subvention Grant for *Fanatical Schemes*, Spring 2008

Big 12 Grant, Fall 2007 (\$2000)

Dean's Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, Fall 2007

Special Research Grant, Spring 2001 (\$750)

Summer Research Associate, Summer 2001

Dean's Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, Fall 2001

Co-op Subvention Grant for *Deliberate Conflict*, Fall 2002, (\$4000)

Dean's Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, Fall 2007