

Curriculum Vitae, (short version)

Personal Information:

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Educational Background:

- 1980-1984 The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ph. D., in the Dept. of Communication Arts. Concentration in rhetoric, minor in criticism and aesthetics. Doctoral Diss.: Emblems of American Community: A Study in Rhetorical Iconology.
- 1977-1979 The Pennsylvania State University, M. A. in the Dept. of Speech Communication. Concentration in rhetoric. Master's Thesis: Kenneth Burke's Usage of Identification in His Major Works and the Implications for Rhetorical Critics.
- 1973-1977 Moorhead State University, B. A. in mathematics, rhetoric, and public address, Magna Cum Laude.

Employment Record:

- 1984-present University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260. Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Communication, 1984-90, Associate Professor, 1990-2005, Professor, 2005-present. Director of Graduate Studies, 1991-92 and 1994-96. <http://www.comm.pitt.edu/faculty/Olson.html>.
- 1988 (fall) The University of California, Davis, CA 95616. Visiting Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Rhetoric and Communication.
- 1980-1984 The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706. Teaching Assistant and Fellowship recipient in the Dept. of Communication Arts.
- 1977-1980 The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802. Teaching Assistant in the Dept. of Speech Communication.

Books:

1. Emblems of American Community in the Revolutionary Era: A Study in Rhetorical Iconology (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1991), 306 pages of printed text plus 56 photographic illustrations. This project received three national awards.
2. Benjamin Franklin's Vision of American Community: A Study in Rhetorical Iconology. (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2004), 323 pages. Today's Books, June 2004, placed it in the top ten percent of books published and distributed in America. "Highly recommended" by Choice, Oct. 2004. This book received two national awards.
3. Visual Rhetoric: A Reader in Communication and American Culture (editor with co-editors Cara A. Finnegan and Diane S. Hope). (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, March 2008).

International and National Refereed Journals:

1. "Portraits in Praise of a People: A Rhetorical Analysis of Norman Rockwell's Icons in Franklin D. Roosevelt's 'Four Freedoms' Campaign," Quarterly Journal of Speech, 69.1 (February 1983): 15-24. Reprinted in Dann L. Pierce, Rhetorical Criticism and Theory in Practice (New York: McGraw Hill, 2003), 256-269.

2. "Benjamin Franklin's Pictorial Representations of the British Colonies in America: A Study in Rhetorical Iconology," Quarterly Journal of Speech, 73.1 (February 1987): 18-42.
3. "Benjamin Franklin's Commemorative Medal, Libertas Americana: A Study in Rhetorical Iconology," Quarterly Journal of Speech, 76.1 (February 1990): 23-45.
4. "An Ideological Rupture: Metaphorical Divergence in Loyalist Rhetoric During the American Revolution," Rhetorica: An International Journal of the History of Rhetoric, 10.4 (Autumn 1992): 405-422.
5. "On the Margins of Rhetoric: Audre Lorde Transforming Silence into Language and Action," Quarterly Journal of Speech, 83.1 (February 1997): 49-70. Reprinted in Readings in Political Communication, eds. Theodore F. Sheckels, Janette Kenner Muir, Terry Robertson, and Lisa Gring-Pemble (State College, PA: Strata, 2007), 470-489.
6. "Liabilities of Language: Audre Lorde Reclaiming Difference," Quarterly Journal of Speech, 84.4 (November 1998): 448-470.
7. "The Personal, the Political, and Others: Audre Lorde Denouncing 'The Second Sex Conference,'" Philosophy and Rhetoric, 33.3 (Fall 2000): 259-285.
8. "A Reply to Jessica Benjamin," Philosophy and Rhetoric, 33.3 (Fall 2000): 291-293. This is a note, commenting on a letter that Jessica Benjamin sent to me about my article.
9. "A Cartography of Silence: Bias Crimes and Public Speechlessness," The Journal of Intergroup Relations, 31.4 (Winter 2004/2005): 76-102.
10. "Visual Rhetoric Representing Rosie the Riveter: Myth and Misconception in J. Howard Miller's 'We Can Do It!' Poster" (with James J. Kimble as co-author), Rhetoric & Public Affairs, 9.4 (Winter 2006): 533-569.
11. "Intellectual and Conceptual Resources for Visual Rhetoric: A Re-examination of Scholarship Since 1950," The Review of Communication, 7.1 (January 2007): 1-19. [lead essay, invited]. Reprinted in Sizing Up Rhetoric, eds. David Zarefsky and Elizabeth Benacka (Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, 2008), 118-137.

Invited Articles and Essays:

1. "The American Colonies Portrayed as an Indian: Race and Gender in Eighteenth-Century British Caricatures," Imprint: Journal of the American Historical Print Collectors Society, 17.2 (Autumn 1992): 2-13.
2. "Lucretia Mott (1793-1880), Religious Reformer and Advocate of the Oppressed: A Case Study in the Rhetoric of the Women's Movement," (with Trudy Bayer as co-author), Women Public Speakers in the United States: A Bio-Critical Sourcebook, ed. Karlyn Kohrs Campbell (Westport, Conn: Greenwood, 1993), 1: 125-142.
3. "Audre Geraldine Lorde (1934-1992), Professor of English, Poet, Black Lesbian, and Socialist," American Voices: An Encyclopedia of Contemporary Orators, ed. Bernard K. Duffy and Richard W. Leeman (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2005), 285-292.
4. "Visual Rhetoric as Indices of Political Change: A Sketch of a Conceptual, Technical Approach to Benjamin Franklin's Pictorial Representations Portraying British America," Visual Communication: Perception, Rhetoric and Technology, ed. Diane S. Hope (Cresskill, New Jersey: Rochester Institute of Technology Cary Graphic Arts Press and Hampton Press, 2006), 177-192.

5. “Traumatic Styles in Public Address: Audre Lorde’s Discourse as Exemplar,” Queering Public Address: Sexualities in American Historical Discourse, ed. Charles E. Morris, III (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2007), 249-282.

Selected scholarship in progress:

Audre Lorde’s Embodied Rhetoric: Poet Orator, Wounded Warrior. I have made significant progress on this long term project, having drafted about six or seven chapters. The estate has given me access to primary materials and permission to use them in my essays and book. I have undertaken archival work at the GLBT Historical Society in San Francisco, the Lesbian Herstory Archives in Brooklyn, NY and, repeatedly, at the Spelman College Archives in Atlanta, Georgia. External grants supporting this project are listed below. “National Character and the Great Seal of the United States,” has been formally accepted for publication as a chapter in Cambridge University Press’s Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Franklin, ed. Carla Mulford, scheduled for release during 2008.

Research Grants Sponsored by National and Federal Sources:

Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics from Iowa State University (2006), for current Audre Lorde book project. Summer Stipend, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) (2005), for current Audre Lorde book project. Packard Humanities Institute, at the suggestion of Barbara Oberg, editor of The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, provided me with an experimental CD ROM containing everything written by and to Benjamin Franklin (1994). Travel Grant, from the NEH (1990), to conduct research at the British Library, London, for Benjamin Franklin’s Vision of American Community. Summer Stipend, from the NEH (1988), to conduct research at Yale University for Benjamin Franklin’s Vision of American Community. Travel Grant, from the American Council of Learned Societies (1987), to present a paper at Tours, France, to the International Society for the History of Rhetoric. Travel Grant, from the NEH (1987), to conduct research at the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, for Emblems of American Community in the Revolutionary Era. Karl Wallace Award, from NCA (1986), to conduct research in France for Emblems. I have also held more than a dozen research grants from the University of Pittsburgh plus numerous, internal teaching development grants.

Academic Honors:

National book awards from the Rhetoric Society of America (2005) and from the Public Address Division of the National Communication Association (2005) for Benjamin Franklin’s Vision of American Community; Chancellor’s Distinguished Teacher Award, University of Pittsburgh (1996); James A. Winans–Herbert A. Wichelns Memorial Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Rhetoric and Public Address (1992), a national award from NCA for Emblems of American Community in the Revolutionary Era; Karl Wallace Award, from NCA for Emblems (1986); Donald H. Ecroyd Emerging Scholar Award, from the Speech Communication Association of Pennsylvania (1986); Dissertation Award, from the NCA for Emblems (1985).

Conferences:

I have presented papers to more than 8 international, 57 national, 11 regional, and 1 state conferences to such organizations as the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies,

American Studies Association, Eastern Communication Association, International Communication Conference, International Society for the History of Rhetoric, International Visual Communication Conference, National Communication Association, Organization of American Historians, Presidential Rhetoric Conference, Public Address Conference, Rhetoric Society of America, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, and Society for the Study of Social Problems.

Teaching Experience:

Undergraduate Courses: Visual Rhetoric (a writing course), Rhetoric and Human Rights (a writing course), Rhetorical Criticism (a writing course), Criticism Practicum (a writing course), Message Analysis and Evaluation (a writing course), Theories of Persuasion, Argumentation and Debate, Political Communication, Fundamentals of Public Speaking, Introduction to Public Speaking.

Graduate Courses: Visual Rhetoric, Rhetoric and Human Rights, History and Practice of Rhetorical Criticism, Qualitative Analysis of Pictorial Symbols, Rhetoric of the American Revolution, Eighteenth-Century American Public Argument, Teaching Practicum: Seminar on Speech Education.

I have directed about a dozen completed doctoral dissertations and I have served on many additional dissertation committees. I am currently working with about a dozen graduate students in various roles (plan of study, M.A., and Ph.D. committees).

Selected service:

Currently, I am an elected officer of the Public Address Division, 2005-2010 (the sequence of roles that culminates in the Chair of the division and subsequent service on the Legislative Council for NCA). For the University, I serve currently on the Tenure Council (2005-2010; previously, from 1991-2001), the Provost's Faculty Diversity Seminar Advisory Committee (2005-2009), whose seminar I co-direct, and the University Press Committee (two consecutive three-year terms, 2003-2009). I am a member of the Women's Studies Steering Committee (1999 to present), and have been affiliated with Women's Studies since 1988.

In previous years, I have assessed book manuscripts for the University of Delaware Press, the University of South Carolina Press, Sage, the Smithsonian Institution Press, Strata, and Houghton Mifflin. I have served on editorial boards for Communication Quarterly, the Quarterly Journal of Speech, and Rhetoric & Public Affairs, as well as assessed essays for Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture, Women's Studies in Communication, and Western Journal of Communication. I have served as a grant evaluator for the NEH; selection committees for prestigious fellowships (Provost Humanities and Mellon Fellowships), as well as faculty grant competitions; selection committees for the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award (1999-2001) and the College of Arts and Sciences Bellet Teaching Award (1999-2001).

Reference available on request.