

# SARA A. MEHLTRETTER DRURY

[drurys@wabash.edu](mailto:drurys@wabash.edu)

## Education

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Ph.D. Communication Arts and Sciences (2011)

The Pennsylvania State University

Dissertation: "The Long Twilight Struggle: Presidential Rhetoric, National Security, and the Cold War, 1945-1974"

Advisor: Dr. J. Michael Hogan

Committee: Dr. Thomas W. Benson, Dr. Jeremy Engels, Dr. J. Philip Jenkins (history)

M.A. Communication Arts and Sciences (2007)

The Pennsylvania State University

Thesis: "Catholic Pacifism in the United States: A Rhetorical Analysis of the Catholic Worker Movement"

Advisor: Dr. J. Michael Hogan

Committee: Dr. Thomas W. Benson, Dr. Stephen H. Browne

B.A. Communication, B.A. Political Science (2005)

Boston College, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

Scholar of the College Thesis: "Never Let the Facts Get in the Way of a Good Story: Redefining Eloquence in Presidential Debates"

Advisor: Dr. Bonnie Jefferson

## Employment

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Byron K. Trippett Assistant Professor of Rhetoric, July 2011-present.

Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Research Associate, August 2010-June 2010.

The Kettering Foundation, Dayton, Ohio.

Graduate Assistant, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, fall 2005-spring 2010.

Teaching Assistant, Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2009.

Research Assistant for Dr. Jeremy Engels, Spring 2008, Summer 2008, Summer 2009.

Research Assistant for the Center for Democratic Deliberation, Fall 2008.

Research Assistant for *Voices of Democracy: The U.S. Oratory Project*, Spring 2007.

Research Assistant for Dr. J. Michael Hogan, Summer 2006, Summer 2007.

## Publications

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Mehrtretter, Sara Ann. "Tim Kaine and the Rhetoric of Catholic Evangelism." In *What Democrats Talk about When They Talk about God*, edited by David Weiss, 177-192. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2010.

Mehrtretter, Sara Ann, and Dale A. Herbeck. "Looks Count: Newspaper Accounts of the First Kennedy-Nixon Debate During the 2004 Presidential Campaign." In *The Functions of Argument and Social Context: Selected Papers from the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on Argumentation*, edited by Dennis S. Gouran, 579-586. Washington, DC: National Communication Association, 2010.

Mehrtretter, Sara Ann. "Dorothy Day, the Catholic Workers, and Moderation in Protest during the Vietnam War." *Journal of Communication & Religion* 32 (2009): 1-32. Lead essay.

Mehrtretter, Sara Ann. "John Fitzgerald Kennedy: Inaugural Address (21 January 1961)." *Voices of Democracy* 4 (2009): 41-59. <http://www.voicesofdemocracy.umd.edu/documents/Mehrtretter-Kennedy.pdf>

Hogan, J. Michael, and Sara Ann Mehlretter. "Helen Caldicott: Stop the Nuclear Madness (17 April 1986)." *Voices of Democracy* 3 (2008): 103-121. <http://www.voicesofdemocracy.umd.edu/documents/Hogan-Caldicott.pdf>

Hogan, J. Michael, and Sara Ann Mehlretter. "George H. W. Bush: Speech at Penn State (23 September 1992)." *Voices of Democracy* 2 (2007): 126-151. <http://www.voicesofdemocracy.umd.edu/documents/Hogan-Bush.pdf>

Mehlretter, Sara Ann. "Dorothy Day: Speech at Union Square (6 November 1965)." *Voices of Democracy* 1 (2006): 165-185. <http://www.voicesofdemocracy.umd.edu/documents/Mehlretter-Day.pdf>

### ***Awards***

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Top Paper in American Studies, "Walter Lippmann and the Push for a Democratic Foreign Policy in the Early Cold War." National Communication Association Convention, San Francisco, California, November 2010.

Presidential Management Fellow Finalist. Office of Personnel Management, United States Government, 2010.

Carroll C. Arnold Award for Scholarly Excellence. Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, 2009.

John McCarthy, SJ Award (presented to the top Scholar of the College Thesis Project in the Social Sciences). Boston College, May 2005.

Joseph and Margaret Dever Award for Scholarly Writing, Thesis Category (presented to the top thesis in the Communication Department). Boston College, May 2005.

John Henry Lawton Award (presented to the member of the senior class who has shown outstanding scholarship in the Department of Communication). Boston College, May 2005.

Scholarly Rigor in Rhetorical Studies Award, "Holding Out for a Hero: The Presidential Image in the 2004 Campaign." Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference, Western States Communication Association Convention, San Francisco, California, February 2005.

### ***Fellowships and Grants***

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Center for Democratic Deliberation Dissertation Fellowship. The Pennsylvania State University, 2009-2010 (\$1500 research fund, semester teaching release).

Dissertation Research Grant (\$1500 for archival research and travel). The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, October 2009.

Democratic Deliberation Award for Additional Conference Funding (\$200), Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, for the NCA/AFA Alta Conference on Argumentation, July 2009.

Summer Scholarship for Accomplished Scholars, Students, and/or Teachers (\$1000), College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University, Summer 2009.

Democratic Deliberation Award for Additional Conference Funding (\$200), Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, for the National Communication Association Convention, November 2008.

Research and Graduate Studies Office Conference Funding Award (\$100), The Pennsylvania State University, for the National Communication Association Convention, November 2008.

Advanced Methods Funding (\$600 for travel to the Biennial Public Address Conference), Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, October 2006.

Advanced Methods Funding (\$450 for research and travel at the annual Catholic Worker meeting), Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, October 2006.

Research Grant (\$600 for archival research and travel). "The Berrigans and Blood Pacifism," Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, December 2006.

Moving and Research Grant (\$1000). Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, August 2005.

Graduate Assistantship. Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, 2005-2010.

***Conference Presentations (\*\*competitively selected)***

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\*\*Drury, Sara A. Mehlretter. "Walter Lippmann and the Push for a Democratic Foreign Policy in the Early Cold War." To be presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Francisco, November 2010.

*Top Paper in American Studies*

\*\* Drury, Sara A. Mehlretter. "To Remember with Honor: Lyndon B. Johnson and Public Memory in the Vietnam War." To be presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Francisco, November 2010.

Drury, Sara A. Mehlretter. Invited panel presenter, NCA Education Policy Board Mini-Conference, "A Bridge Too Far: From Chalk to YouTube?" To be presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Francisco, November 2010.

Drury, Sara A. Mehlretter. "A Bridge to Nowhere: Jimmy Carter and Evangelical Argumentation in Presidential Discourse." To be presented at the Religious Communication Association Pre-Conference, National Communication Association Convention, San Francisco, November 2010.

\*\*Mehlretter, Sara Ann. "The Rhetorical Construction of National Security in *The Federalist Papers*." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Illinois, November 2009.

Mehlretter, Sara Ann. "National Security and War Rhetoric." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Illinois, November 2009.

\*\*Mehlretter, Sara Ann. "Answering the Trumpet's Summon: The Foreign Policy Framework in John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Address." Presented at the NCA/AFA Alta Argumentation Conference, Alta, Utah, July 2009.

\*\*Mehlretter, Sara Ann. "Arab and U.S. Media Frames: Comparing Coverage of General Petraeus and the September 2007 Congressional Hearings." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Diego, California, November 2008.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "The Catholic Workers, World War II, and the Rhetoric of Spiritual Pacifism." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Diego, California, November 2008.

Engels, Jeremy and Sara Ann Mehltretter. "Forming Visions of Peace: Lessons from the Quakers and the Plowshares." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Diego, California, November 2008.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "Dorothy Day, the Catholic Workers, and Moderation in Protest during the Vietnam War." Presented at the Central States Communication Association Convention, Madison, Wisconsin, April 2008.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "The Vernacular Rhetoric of the Catholic Worker." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Illinois, November 2007.

Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "Tim Kaine and the Rhetoric of Evangelism." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Chicago, Illinois, November 2007.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann and Dale A. Herbeck. "'Looks Count': Newspaper Accounts of the First Kennedy-Nixon Debate During the 2004 Presidential Campaign." Presented at the NCA/AFA Alta Argumentation Conference, Alta, Utah, August 2007.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann and Dale A. Herbeck. "Debating the Great Debates of 1960: Presidential Libraries as Sites for Political Argumentation." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Antonio, Texas, November 2006.

Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "From Pastoral to Prophetic: The Changing Nature of Father Charles Coughlin's Sermons, 1926 - 1932." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, San Antonio, Texas, November 2006.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "The Reagan-Mondale Debates as Turning Point: The Triumph of Narrative Over Substance." Presented at the Eastern Communication Association Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2006.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann and Jonathan Bowman. "Ethos and Delivery: An Analysis of Colin Powell and the War in Iraq." Presented at the Eastern Communication Association Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2006.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "Eloquence in Presidential Debates: The Bush-Kerry Debates." Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Boston, Massachusetts, November 2005.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann and Dale A. Herbeck. "A Beard and a Pasty Forehead: Collective Memory of the First Kennedy-Nixon Debate." Presented at the International Communication Association Convention, New York City, New York, May 2005.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "Holding Out for a Hero: The Presidential Image in the 2004 Campaign." Presented at the Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference, Western States Communication Association Convention, San Francisco, California, February 2005.  
*Scholarly Rigor in Rhetorical Studies Award*

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "The Inclusive Narrator: Bush's Strategy in the 2000 Presidential Debates." Presented at the University of Southern California Undergraduate Honors Convention, Los Angeles, California, November 2004.

\*\*Mehltretter, Sara Ann. "Rhetorical Strategies in the Bush-Gore Debates." Poster Session Participant at the Eastern Communication Association Convention, Boston, Massachusetts, April 2004.  
*Top Undergraduate Poster Session Paper*

### **Teaching Experience**

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#### **The Pennsylvania State University**

*Courses Taught – Primary Instructor (13 sections)*

CAS 100A (3 sections) Effective Speech Communication (Fall 2005, Spring 2006)

CAS 100C (1 section) Effective Speech Communication (focus on message analysis), World Campus (Summer 2010)

CAS 175 (4 sections) Persuasion and Propaganda (Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2009)

CAS 311 (1 section) Methods of Rhetorical Criticism (Spring 2009)

CAS 475 (2 section) Studies in Public Address, World Campus (Fall 2009, Summer 2010)

CAS 475 (2 sections) Studies in Public Address, Continuing Education (Summer 2007, Summer 2010)

*Courses Taught – Teaching Assistant (2 sections)*

CAS 201 (2 sections) Rhetorical Theory (Fall 2007)

#### **Lectures and Presentations**

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"Presidential Communication in the Early Cold War." Invited Presentation for Teaching American History, Montgomery County Intermediary Unit, Norristown, Pennsylvania, April 12, 2011.

"President Johnson, Vietnam, and Public Memory." Invited Colloquium Presentation for the Department of Communication Studies, the University of Kansas, February 24, 2010.

"Theatrical Performances as Social and Political Activism: A Roundtable Discussion." Invited moderator and participant, sponsored by the Center for Democratic Deliberation and the Center for Performing Arts at Penn State, the Pennsylvania State University, February 1, 2010.

"The Long Twilight Struggle: Presidential Rhetoric, National Security, and the Cold War." Invited Colloquium Presentation for the Center for Democratic Deliberation Fellows, Department of Communication Arts & Sciences, the Pennsylvania State University, January 29, 2010.

"Communication, Security, and Personal Liberty." Invited Presentation for the VFW Voices of Democracy American Youth Leadership Summit, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, July 12, 2009.

"George Kennan, Walter Lippmann, and Rhetorical Visions of the Early Cold War." Colloquium Presentation for the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, April 10, 2009.

"Sarah Palin and 'New' Feminism?" Guest Commentator, *The Burnie Thompson Show*, WYOO FM Talk Radio 101.1, Tallahassee, Florida, September 19, 2008.

“Citizenship and the Public Sphere.” Guest Lecture, *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution*: Center for Civic Education Seminar for High School Teachers, the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, July 27, 2007.

“The Republican Field in 2008.” Guest Commentator, *The Burnie Thompson Show*, WYOO FM Talk Radio 101.1, Tallahassee, Florida, March 14, 2007.

“Public Deliberation and Our Responsibility.” Invited Presentation for the Boy Scouts of America *Price of Freedom* conference, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, February 16, 2007.

“Teaching Argumentation and Persuasion: Senator Jim Webb's 2007 State of the Union Response.” Invited Presentation for the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences Graduate Forum Teaching Resources Colloquium, The Pennsylvania State University, February 9, 2007.

“Debating Public Discourse in a Debate Program.” Invited Lecture, Coaches Seminar, Heart of New England Invitational Forensic Tournament, Boston, Massachusetts, January 13, 2007.

“Women in the Academy: Issues of Access.” Panel Participant at the National Communication Association Convention, San Antonio, Texas, November 2006.

“Rhetorical Theory.” Three guest lectures in Communication Methods (CAS 202) for Dr. Christopher Morse, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, June 6, 7, 8, 2006.

Guest Commentator, *Radio Free Penn State*, the LION 90.7 FM, State College, Pennsylvania, April-May, 2006.

“Teaching Civic Engagement Using Media.” Guest Lecture in Supervised Experience in College Teaching (CAS 602) for Dr. Christopher L. Johnstone, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, March 15, 2006.

## ***Service***

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### Department & University Service

Co-coordinator, Rhetoric Brown Bag Series: Reading and Writing Workshops, Department of Communication Arts & Sciences and Department of English, The Pennsylvania State University, 2009-2010.

Professional Development Chair, CAS Graduate Forum, The Pennsylvania State University, 2009-2010.

Member, Rhetoric Society of America Graduate Student Group Organizing Committee, The Pennsylvania State University, 2008-2009.

Judge, The Pennsylvania State University Civic Engagement Public Speaking Contest, 2005, 2006, 2009.

### Professional Service

Paper Reviewer, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, 2010.

Paper Reviewer, American Studies Division, National Communication Association, 2010.

Paper Reviewer, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, 2009.

Panel Chair, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, November 2008.

Nominating Committee, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, 2007-2008.

Paper Reviewer, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, 2008.

Paper Reviewer, Undergraduate Poster Session, Eastern Communication Association, 2008.

Paper Reviewer, Religious Communication Association, National Communication Association, 2007.

Paper Reviewer, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, 2006.

Publication Assistant to Dr. Ronald Jackson, First Vice President, Eastern Communication Association,

March-April 2006.

Conference Assistant to Dr. Donald A. Fishman, First Vice President, Eastern Communication Association,  
January-April 2004.

#### Public Service and Outreach

Invited Participant, Multinational Workshop, Deliberative Democracy Workshop, The Kettering  
Foundation, Dayton, Ohio, June 28-July 1, 2010.

Deliberation Facilitator, Community Conversations: Exploring Solutions to Dangerous and Underage  
Drinking, March 2010.

Congressional District Coordinator (PA-05), *Project Citizen* and *We the People*, sponsored by the Center for  
Civic Education, 2006-2010.

High School Curriculum Advisor, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, 2007-2009.

Coordinator, Presidential DebateWatch 2008, The Pennsylvania State University, October 2008.

Invited Participant, Communication Scholars Workshop, Deliberative Democracy Exchange,  
The Kettering Foundation, Dayton, Ohio, June 30-July 2, 2008.

Reader, ALA Banned Books Week Celebration, The Pennsylvania State University, Pattee Library,  
September 2006.

#### *Scholarly Affiliations*

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National Communication Association (NCA), Member, 2004-2011.

Rhetoric Society of America (RSA), Member, 2009-2011.

Religious Communication Association (RCA), Member, 2005-2011.

The Pennsylvania State University Center for Democratic Deliberation, Affiliated Graduate Student, 2008-2010.