

Todd F. McDorman
Associate Professor of Rhetoric
Wabash College
PO Box 352
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
(765) 361-5807 (Home)
(765) 361-6183 (Office)
e-mail: *mcdormat@wabash.edu*

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Indiana University Bloomington, 1998
Major: Rhetorical Studies
Minor: Law

Dissertation: *Transforming Death: The Rhetoric of Euthanasia*
Dissertation Advisor: John Louis Lucaites. Dissertation Committee: Robert L. Ivie, Charles Taylor, Roger B. Dworkin (Indiana University School of Law)

Master of Arts, Miami University (Oxford, OH), 1993
Major: Speech Communication

Bachelor of Arts, Butler University (Indianapolis, IN), 1992
Majors: Communication Studies and Political Science
Minor: History
Graduated: *Cum Laude* and with *high honors* in Communication Studies

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Wabash College, 1998 - present

Department Chair, July 2005- present

Associate Professor of Rhetoric, July 2004 - present

Acting Department Chair, July 2002-June 2003

Assistant Professor of Speech, July 1998-June 2004

Courses Taught: Public Speaking, Senior Seminar, Reasoning and Advocacy, Legal Rhetoric, Rhetoric of Sport, Persuasion, Argumentation and Policy Debate, Political Debate, Legal Debate, First Amendment, Freshman Tutorial: Sport and American Society, Cultures and Traditions I, Cultures and Traditions II

Indiana University, Bloomington, 1993-1998

Visiting Lecturer in Speech Communication and Director of Interpersonal Communication, 1997-1998

Associate Instructor, 1993-1997

Courses Taught: Argumentation and Debate, Interpersonal Communication, Public Speaking

Debate Coach, NDT program, 1993-1994

Miami University, Oxford, OH, 1992-1993

Debate Assistant, CEDA program

Teaching Assistant, Public Speaking

RESEARCH

My primary program of research examines the forms and functions of rhetoric in shaping the law. This includes examining formal legal discourse and the ways various discourse communities engage the law with respect to social and political change. I primarily focus on the study of marginalized groups and others denied legal protections. I analyze the interaction between the law and public discourse in critiquing enlightenment law and strategic rhetorics, and offering critical rhetorical responses.

Scholarly Publications

“History, Collective Memory, and the Supreme Court: Debating ‘the people’ through the *Dred Scott* Controversy.” *Southern Communication Journal* 71 (2006): 213-234. [2007 Rose B. Johnson SCJ Article Award]

Todd F. McDorman, Kurt Casper, Aaron Logan, and Sean McGinley, "Where Have All the Heroes Gone? An Exploration of Cultural Therapy in *Jerry Maguire*, *For Love of the Game*, and *Any Given Sunday*." *Journal of Sport and Social Issues* 30 (2006): 197-218.

“Controlling Death: Bio-Power and the Right-to-Die Controversy.” *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* 2 (2005): 257-279.

“Promoting Undergraduate Research in the Humanities: Three Collaborative Approaches.” *Council on Undergraduate Research Quarterly* 25 (September 2004): 39-42.

R. Scott Medsker and Todd F. McDorman, “Maintaining Institutional Power and Constitutional Principles: A Rhetorical Analysis of *United States v. Nixon*.” *Speaker & Gavel* 41 (2004): 1-19.

"The Rhetorical Resurgence of Pete Rose: A Second-Chance Apologia." In *Case Studies in Sport Communication* (pp 1-25), Robert S. Brown and Daniel O'Rourke (eds.). Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 2003.

"Crafting a Virtual Counterpublic: Right-to-Die Advocates on the Internet." In *Counterpublics and the State* (pp. 187-209), Robert Asen and Daniel C. Brouwer (eds.). New York: SUNY Press, 2001.

"Uniting Legal Doctrine and Discourse in Rethinking Women's Workplace Rights." *Women's Studies in Communication* 21 (1998): 27-54.

"Challenging Constitutional Authority: African American Responses to *Scott v. Sandford*." *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 83 (1997): 192-209.

In Press

Todd F. McDorman and David M. Timmerman, eds. *Rhetoric and Democracy: Essays in the Tradition of W. Norwood Bragance*. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2008.

Reviews of Scholarly Works

Review of *Rhetorical Vectors of Memory in National and International Holocaust Trials*. By Marouf A. Hasian, Jr. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2006. In *Rhetoric Review*: in press.

Review of *Troubling Confessions: Speaking Guilt in Law and Literature*. By Peter Brooks. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000. In *Argumentation & Advocacy* 38 (2002): 189-192 (1500 words).

Review of *Constitutional Construction: Divided Powers and Constitutional Meaning*. By Keith E. Whittington. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999. In *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 4 (2001): 573-575 (1200 words).

Convention Paper Presentations

"Inaugurating the Roberts Era of Conservative Jurisprudence? A Rhetorical Analysis of *Gonzales v. Oregon*." Division on Communication and Law, Panel Submission. National Communication Association Convention, November 18, 2006, San Antonio, TX.

"Apologia Gone Wrong: Pete Rose's *My Prison Without Bars*." Mass Communication Division, Panel Submission. National Communication Association Convention, November 17, 2006, San Antonio, TX.

- Todd F. McDorman and David M. Timmerman, "Rhetoric and Democratic Citizenship." Essays from the Brigrance Colloquy on Rhetoric and Democratic Citizenship. Panel Submission. Rhetoric Society of America 12th Biennial Conference, May 28, 2006, Memphis, TN.
- "Enacting a Critical Legal Rhetoric: The Social Failure of *Bush v. Gore*." Commission on Communication and Law, Competitive Paper. National Communication Association Convention, November 23, 2002, New Orleans, LA.
- "Life, Death, Law, Autonomy: Ideology and Motive in the Federal Attack on Oregon's Death with Dignity Act." Commission on Communication and Law, Panel Submission. National Communication Association Convention, November 21, 2002, New Orleans, LA.
- "Arguing with History: (Re)Constructing a Nation's People in *Scott v. Sandford*." Commission on Communication and Law, Panel Submission. National Communication Association Convention, November 1, 2001, Atlanta, GA.
- "The Rhetorical Resurgence of Pete Rose: A Second Chance Apologia." Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, Competitive Paper. National Communication Association Convention, November 9, 2000, Seattle, WA.
- "Death Goes Public: Jack Kevoorkian as Critical Rhetorician and Representational Ideograph." Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, Competitive Paper. National Communication Association Convention, November 7, 1999, Chicago, IL.
- "Crafting a United Vision of Death: Fighting for the Right to Die with Dignity." The Rest of the Best: Top-Ranked Papers in Public Address, Competitive Paper. National Communication Association Convention, November 23, 1998, New York, NY.
- "Between the Law and Autonomy: The State's Conscriptioin of the Body in the Euthanasia Debate." Top Three Paper in Communication and Law, Competitive Paper. Western States Communication Association Convention, February 15, 1998, Denver, CO.
- "Rhetoric and the Law on Euthanasia: The Entanglement of Meaning, Morals, and Legal Controls." Top Competitive Paper in Communication and Law. National Communication Association Convention, November 21, 1997, Chicago, IL.
- "Death in Transition: The Conflict between Religious and Scientific Rationalization." Competitive Paper. Speech Communication Association Convention, November 23, 1996, San Diego, CA.
- "Prime-Time Television and the Struggle to Judge Life and Death." Competitive Submission—Poster Session Presentation. Speech Communication Association Convention, November 24, 1996, San Diego, CA.

“(Re)Constructing a Nation’s People: Constitutional Adjudication and Historical Reconstruction in *Scott v. Sandford*.” Competitive Paper. Speech Communication Association Convention, November 25, 1996, San Diego, CA.

“Deconstructing the Law: What the Court *did* and *did not* say in *Cruzan*.” Competitive Paper. Speech Communication Association Convention, November 19, 1995, San Antonio, TX.

“Identification by Negation: An Analysis of Woman’s Occupational Freedom.” Competitive Paper. Speech Communication Association, November 20, 1995, San Antonio, TX.

“(Re)Constructing Burkean Society to Account for Woman.” Competitive Paper. Speech Communication Association Convention, November 21, 1995, San Antonio, TX.

“Reasserting Personhood: Responding to the Rhetoric of Erasure in *Scott v. Sandford* (1857).” Panel Submission. Central States Communication Association Convention, April 23, 1995, Indianapolis, IN.

“A Request for Freedom: The Metaphoric and Mythic Reconstruction of Death in *Cruzan v. Director Missouri Department of Health*.” Competitive Paper. Central States Communication Association Convention, April 22, 1995, Indianapolis, IN.

Convention Panelist

“National Life or Death Conversations: Euthanasia, Million Dollar Baby and Terri Schiavo.” Disability Issues Caucus. National Communication Association Convention, November 18, 2005, Boston, MA.

“The Brigrance Colloquy on Rhetoric and Democratic Citizenship.” Public Address Division. National Communication Association Convention, November 18, 2005, Boston MA.

David M. Timmerman and Todd F. McDorman. “A Liberal Arts Perspective on the Institutional and Social Goals for Academic Rhetoric in the Twenty-First Century.” Alliance of Rhetoric Societies, September 13, 2003, Evanston, IL.

“Legal Communication in the Classroom: Teaching and Pedagogy.” Communication and Law Commission. National Communication Association Convention, November 11, 2000, Seattle, WA.

“Counterpublics and the State: A Roundtable Discussion.” Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division. National Communication Association Convention, November 6, 1999, Chicago IL.

Convention Respondent

“Presidential Rhetoric in Historical and Comparative Perspectives.” Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division. National Communication Association Convention, November 16, 2006, San Antonio, TX.

“Shaping Law: Examining the Influence of Legal Rhetorics and Jury Deliberation.” Division on Communication and the Law. National Communication Association Convention, November 16, 2006, San Antonio, TX.

“Interpreting the Constitution: Crafting Publics, Laws, and Rights.” Division on Communication and Law. National Communication Association Convention, November 18, 2005, Boston, MA.

“The Health of Metaphor: Theory and Use.” Rhetorical and Communication Studies Division. National Communication Association Convention, November 18, 2005, Boston, MA.

“The Justice of Legal Dialectics: Rhetorics of Exclusion.” Communication and Law Commission. National Communication Association Convention, November 14, 2004, Chicago, IL.

“Obscenity laws and Building Codes: Communication in Action to Regulate How we Live.” Communication and Law Commission. National Communication Association Convention, November 21, 2002, New Orleans, LA.

“Critical Examinations of the Law and Legal Practice.” Communication and Law Commission. National Communication Association Convention, November 2, 2001, Atlanta, GA.

“Examining the Brave New World: The Media, the Courts, and the Law.” Communication and Law Commission. National Communication Association Convention, November 6, 1999, Chicago IL.

“Top Three Competitive Papers in Communication and Law.” Communication and Law Commission. National Communication Association Convention, November 22, 1998, New York: NY.

SERVICE

Campus

Freshman Year Experience Study Group, 2007-

Participant, Strategic Planning Committee Three: Learning and Teaching about the full implications of Wabash as residential community, 2007-

Academic Policy Committee, Division II representative, 2003-04, 2007-

Faculty Visitor to the Board of Trustees, 2007-

Undergraduate Research Committee (Organizing Committee for Wabash College Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work), 2000-2004; 2005-06 Chair; 2006-07 Co-Chair; 2007-08 Chair.

Pre-Law Committee, 1999-2004 (2002-04, Chair), 2005-

Faculty Parliamentarian, 2002-03, 2005-

Co-Chair of Freshman Tutorial Program, 2001-2004.

Freshman Advisor at Wabash College, 1999-2000, 2002-03, 2003-04.

Previous Committees: Ad Hoc Committee reviewing Freshman Tutorial (2001-02); Ad Hoc Committee on Freshman Advising (Spring 2002); Faculty Athletics Committee (2000-02); Lilly Scholarship Selection Committee (2000-01); Library Advisory Committee (2001-02); Gavitt Committee (2000-02); Participant, Strategic Plan Initiative One: Making the most of the residential experience, 2000-2003.

Faculty representative to the Great Lakes College Association Academic Council, 1999-2002.

Moot Court, Planner and Organizer, 2002.

Peck Banquet Planner, 2003, 2004.

Judge, Moot Court, 1998-2002, 2006.

Researcher for Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts. Summer 2001, Summer 2002, Spring 2005.

Outside member of job-search committee: One-year sabbatical replacement in English (2000); Tenure track search in Social Psychology (2001); Tenure track search in American Religion (2002); Search for Swim Coach and Director of Aquatics (2002); Search for Wrestling Coach and Director of Wellness (2002); Search for Two-Year English Department appointment in Writing Across the Curriculum (2007).

Professional & Off Campus

Reviewer for *Rhetoric Review*, 2007-

Guest reviewer for *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, 2007

Nominating Committee of the Public Address Division of the National Communication Association, 2006-07.

Co-Planner of the “Brigance Colloquy on Rhetoric and Democratic Citizenship,” Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts at Wabash College, April 14-16, 2005.

Commission on Communication and Law, National Communication Association.

Vice Chair-Elect, 1998-99.

Vice Chair, 1999-2000. Responsible for planning commission’s NCA panels for Seattle convention in November 2000.

Chair, 2000-01.

Reviewer of Competitive Papers or Panel Submissions to the Commission on Communication and Law in preparation for National Communication Association Annual Convention: 1998-2003, 2005-present.

Reviewer of Competitive Papers and Panel Submissions to the Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division in preparation for the National Communication Association Annual Convention: 2005-2006.

Teacher, O.L.A.B. (Opportunities to Learn About Business), 2005-

Teacher, L.I.F.E. Program, Summer 2000-2002.

Editorial Intern, *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, 1994-1995.

Peer Mentor to new Associate Instructors in Speech Communication at Indiana University, Bloomington, 1994-1995, 1996-1997.

Invited Talks, Lectures, and Teaching Presentations

“Exploring Living-Learning Environments at Wabash College.” Sponsored by the Wabash College Teaching & Learning Committee, February 23, 2006.

“A Second-Chance Apologia: The Redemptive Efforts of Pete Rose.” Western Illinois University, November 17, 2004.

“Reflections on Sport ‘Big’ and ‘Little.’” Wabash College Chapel Talk, September 25, 2003.

“What about the War: Reading the Media.” Co-led with Jennifer Young Abbott. Wabash College series on War in Iraq, March 27, 2003.

“Sport and Disability: The Case of Casey Martin” (Teaching Presentation). Wabash College Family Day, November 2, 2002.

“Sport and Social Conscience: Sport post 9/11” (Teaching Presentation). Wabash on the Road, Cleveland, OH, April 2, 2002.

Invited to Pat Andrews’ C626 Contemporary Topics in Communication and Culture: “Pedagogy Seminar” at Indiana University Bloomington to discuss the nature of being a faculty member at a Liberal Arts college, March 28, 2002.

“Sport and Social Conscience” (Teaching Presentation). Learning for a Lifetime Colloquium, Wabash College Commencement Weekend, May 13, 2000.

“From Research I to Baccalaureate I: Reflections on the Academic Job Search and Transition to Assistant Professor,” Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, April 30, 1999.

“When Euthanasia becomes a Legal Problem,” Kiwanis Club of Crawfordsville, IN, March 4, 1999.

AWARDS

Rose B. Johnson SCJ Article Award for Volume 71, 2006 of the *Southern Communication Journal* (Awarded at 2007 Southern States Communication Association Annual Convention for “History, Collective Memory, and the Supreme Court: Debating ‘the people’ through the *Dred Scott* Controversy.”).

2006-07 McLain, McTurnan, Arnold Research Scholar Award (semester leave in Spring 2007).

Visiting Scholar, Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts, Wabash College, Spring 2005

The Richard O. Ristine Law Award, presented by the Wabash College Pre-Law Society in recognition of contributions to Wabash College and the practice of law, March 23, 2003.

Remak Fellowship from the Indiana University Graduate Student Organization, April 1999.

Top Three Competitive Paper in Communication and Law at the Western States Communication Association Convention, February 1998.

Top Competitive Paper in Communication and Law at the National Communication Association Convention, November 1997.

Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Fellowship, Summer 1997.

Robert G. Gunderson Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Career in Speech Communication at Indiana University, 1997.

Virginia Gunderson Outstanding Graduate Student Essay Award in Speech Communication at
Indiana University, 1997.

Indiana University Department of Speech Communication Fellowship, 1993-1997.