

RELIGIOUS COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION
Annual Conference Schedule ● November 7, 2018
Downtown Marriott at City Creek, Salt Lake City, Utah

OPENING ACTIVITIES

8:00am-4:00pm Onsite Registration
8:15-9:00am Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:30am Conference Opening
Deer Valley

PANEL SESSION 1 ● 9:40 to 10:55 am

Session 1A
Alta

The Interplay of Religion and Politics in Time of Crisis

Chairs: Joel Lansing Reed, Geneva College; Elizabeth R. Earle, Texas A&M University

Beloved and Resilient Community: Michael Curry and the Episcopal Response to the Violence in Charlottesville, Joel Lansing Reed, University of Missouri; Josh Bramlett, University of Missouri

Pure Faith, Yet Free of Dogmas”: God Terms and the Theology of Miguel de Unamuno, Elizabeth R. Earle, Texas A & M University

Post-Shooting Presidential Addresses: Secular Figures Evoking Religious Imagery in the Face of Tragedy, Joshua P. Bolton, Loras College

Theological Crises and Their Political Consequences: American Evangelicalism as Rhetorical Community, From the Great Awakening to the Trump Revolution, Mark Ward Sr., University of Houston-Victoria

Session 1B
Brighton

Religion, Inquiry, and Three Methodological Approaches

Chair: Mark Steiner, Christopher Newport University

“Inoculate Yourself with the Word of God”: Persuasion Inoculation, Medial Inoculation, and Religious Rhetoric, Josh Compton, Dartmouth College

Understanding Interpersonal Religious Communication Apprehension: A Mixed-Methods Approach, George Kueppers, George Mason University

Visual Myths: An Alternative Way to Seeing and Believing, Gregory Knight, University of Southern Mississippi
The Constitution of a “Moral Issue.” Joshua Hoops, William Jewell College

Session 1C
Park City

The Public and Private, the Sacred and the Secular

Chair: Denise P. Ferguson, Azusa Pacific University

The Missing Piece of Reason: Habermas’s Rules of Engagement in the Secular Discourse Game of Justification and Pure Description in a Post-Secularized Society, Caitlyn Lackey, Independent Scholar

“That’s the First Mistake That We Make”: The Waco Siege as Case Study of the Nature of Contested Public Spheres and Differing Ideological Systems in Religio-Secular Communication, Malcolm Jason, North Dakota State University

*Colonizing Sacred Ground: Adjacent Secular and Religious Sacredness at Christ Church Cathedral/
Former Slave Market Site*, Katrina Marks, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"To Make Clear What Was Hidden": Reflections on the Interrelatedness of Rhetoric and Theology,
Rebecca Watts, Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest

PANEL SESSION 2 • 11:10am to 12:25pm

Session 2A
Alta

The Medium is the Religious Message

Chair: Andrew Harris, Cedarville University

*New Journeys on Well-Worn Paths: Clarifying and Re-Applying Postman's Media Ecology from
a Judeo-Christian Perspective*, Abram Book, Regent University

Serving God and Money: The Rise and Fall of "The Boy Who Came Back from Heaven,"
Jim Trammell, High Point University

CHAPPIE: Science Fiction, Post-Modernism, and Conflicting Worldviews, Jennifer Saint Louis,
Regent University

Jesus Loves Hip-Hop: Lecrae, Constitutive Christianity, and the Rapper Persona, Caroline Guerin,
Southwestern University

Session 2B
Brighton

Reaping and Sowing: Confession, Direction, and Response to #MeToo and #Silenceisnotspiritual"

Chair: Sean Connable, Christopher Newport University

Presenters:

Denise P. Ferguson, Azusa Pacific University

Joy E. A. Qualls, Biola University

Sarah Schwartz, Biola University

Annalee R. Ward, University of Dubuque

Molly Waters, Christopher Newport University

Session 2C
Park City

Spectrality, Love, and New Evangelicalism

Chair: Joel Ward, Geneva College

Haunting the Reader: The Spectral Rhetoric of C.S. Lewis' The Great Divorce, Seth Pierce,
Regent University

Thy Neighbor's Relevance: Hannah Arendt on Augustinian Love, David Impellizzeri,
Duquesne University

Expressions of Evangelical Cultural Identity Management in the Work of Carl F. H. Henry,
John Dunkle, Regent University

BUSINESS MEETING and LUNCH • 12:35 to 2:15pm

Deer Valley
Registration

Religious Communication Association Annual Business Meeting

Lunch Provided to All Conference Registrants

PANEL SESSION 3 • 2:30 to 3:45pm

Session 3A
Alta

Religion and Feminist Issues

Chair: Annalee Ward, University of Dubuque

Yes, The Baby Should Live: A Pro-Life Response to After-Birth Abortion, Crystal Lane Swift Ferguson, Mt. San Antonio College

Liberation Theologies and Ecofeminist Theories in Domestic Violence Cases Involving Women and Their Companion Animals, Patricia Friel, University of Cincinnati

Is Islamic Feminism an Oxymoron? How the Co-Existence of Veil and Feminism Complicates the Binary of Secular and Religious Sensibilities, Samira Musleh, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Abstinence-Only Education and its Religious Roots: How Christian Groups Framed the Discussion on Addressing Teen Sex, Edward Van Herik, Georgia State University

Session 3B
Brighton

Walker Percy on Human Communication: Semiotic, Existential, and Religious Responses to the “Modern Malaise”

Chair: Michael R. Kearney, Duquesne University

Triadic Semiotics as a Ground for Communication Ethics, Calvin Troup, Geneva College

Wording the Unwordable: Articulation in Walker Percy and Charles Taylor, Justin N. Bonanno, Duquesne University

Seeing the Invisible: The “Helen Keller Phenomenon” in Walker Percy’s Semiotics, Joel S. Ward, Geneva College

Mors Certa, Vita Incerta: Walker Percy’s Signs That Still Signify, Anthony Wachs, Duquesne University

Cynics in Communion: Walker Percy and Jacques Ellul on Technological Alienation and International Hope, Michael R. Kearney, Duquesne University

Session 3C
Park City

Leadership, Authority, and Christian Rhetoric

Chair: Cecil Kramer, Liberty University

Priests on Facebook: Authenticity’s Role for Maintaining Religious Authority, Brian Altenhofen, Truman State University

The Ecclesial Leader: A Leader of Prayer in Worship and Beyond, Darius Benton, University of Houston-Downtown

Alexander Campbell and the Ancient Order, Meredith Martin, Midland College; Mark Gring, Texas Tech University

Practice What You Preach, Casey Stratton, Missouri State University

Session 3D
Snowbird

The Intersection of Religion, Politics, and Social Issues

Chair: Daniel S. Brown, Grove City College

Preaching as Critical Intervention on Homelessness, Fred Jenga, University of Texas, Austin

We Exile Them for a Reason: Making Room for Religion in Politics, Rachel Larsen, University of Colorado, Boulder

Politics, Publicity, and Media: Mormon Perspectives of Mitt Romney, Clark Callahan, Brigham Young University

Beyond Religion and Politics: The Rhetorical Practices of Theology in Political Action Speeches, James Vining, Governors State University

Evangelicalism and the Refugee: Myth Making and the Constituting of a Religious Public and Counterpublic, Gregory Knight, University of Southern Mississippi

PANEL SESSION 4 • 4:00 to 5:15 pm

Deer Valley

Religious Communication Association Scholarship Awards Panel

Chair: Joy E. A. Qualls, Biola University

Presenters:

Student Paper of the Year Recipient

Divisional Papers of the Year Recipients

Dissertation of the Year Recipient

Article of the Year Recipient

Book of the Year Recipient

AWARDS BANQUET • 6:00 to 8:30 pm

Deer Valley

Religious Communication Association Annual Awards Banquet

Keynote Speaker: RCA Scholar of the Year